

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
 جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تكميلية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

## Arafat to attend Cairo conference

RIYADH (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was expected to visit Cairo towards the end of January to participate in the International Conference for Solidarity with the Palestinian people, the newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat reported Monday. Citing unidentified PLO sources the paper said the planned visit would "fall within the frameworks of Arafat's positive action to restore Arab solidarity." It said that Mr. Arafat would hold sessions of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and Jordan's call for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian political initiative. King Hussein last November called for a joint Jordan-PLO action on the Middle East peace drive. The PLO has not responded to this, and Arab diplomats here said Mr. Arafat wanted to offer the future of peace with Israel to an Arab summit conference before acting on it.

## Taba talks may begin next week

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Monday Egyptian and Israeli representatives may meet next week to discuss their border dispute in the Sinai Peninsula. It would be the first meeting in two-and-one-half years of a joint Israel-Egypt commission, and the resumption of talks could signal a thaw in the chilly relations between the two countries. An official in Mr. Peres' office said the prime minister told a meeting of spokesmen from the government and independent agencies that the talks will resume soon, "maybe next week." The focus of the talks will be Taba, a one-square-mile area of Sinai on the Red Sea coast that was claimed by both countries. The dispute was left unresolved in negotiations that preceded Israel's 1982 evacuation of Sinai, which it occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Little chance of a Lebanon-Israel accord, page 4

Volume 10 Number 2763

AMMAN, TUESDAY JANUARY 8, 1985, RABIA THANI 16, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

## Obeidat sends good wishes to Ramadan

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Monday sent a congratulatory cable to Iraq's first deputy premier and member of the Revolutionary Command Council, Taha Yassin Ramadan, on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi army. In his cable Mr. Obeidat congratulated Mr. Ramadan in his personal name and on behalf of the Jordanian cabinet and wished him good health and happiness. Mr. Obeidat also wished the Iraqi people and army strength and victory in their battle to defend Arab territories.

## Israeli governors to head new health teams in W. Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli occupation authorities have decided to form committees headed by the military governors in the occupied West Bank to supervise the health directorates and hospitals on the occupied West Bank in a move seen by observers as aimed at integrating health facilities in the occupied territories into those of the Israeli authorities. The new committees to be formed will group a number of physicians who will be nominated by the military governor in his capacity as committee chairman.

## Numeiri pardons 209 suspected 'plotters'

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri in a surprise move Monday pardoned all of 209 defendants charged with plotting to overthrow his government, the Sudan News Agency said. Mr. Numeiri's pardon was read out in court on the opening day of the trial of Phillip Abbas Gaboush, and the other 208 defendants who included military men. Mr. Gaboush, a politician from Kordofan in western Sudan and the principal defendant, was arrested last October for trying to engineer a "criminal and ethnic plot to create disturbances in the country and confusion and panic in Khartoum to prepare for foreign intervention," the Sudan News Agency reported at the time.

## Abducted Swiss diplomat released

BEIRUT (R) — Swiss diplomat Eric Wehrli, who was abducted last week in Beirut, was released Monday from his captors, sources said. The Swiss Amal movement said. They told Reuters the movement had secured the release of the diplomat, abducted by four gunmen as he drove home from work on Jan. 3. Mr. Wehrli was taken to the home of Shi'ite leader and Cabinet Minister Nabih Berri after his release, and was safe and sound, the sources said. There was no immediate word on the identification of his abductors. The sources said Mr. Wehrli, who became chargé d'affaires after the departure of Ambassador Paul-Andre Ramseyer about two months ago, later left for his home in mainly Muslim West Beirut.

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## Upper House votes to abolish tribal laws Senate okays passport law after amendment, returns it to House

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate), for the first time since its reconvening in October after the summer recess, Monday referred to the Lower House of Parliament a controversial provisional law on issuing and renewing passports for Jordanian nationals.

The law, which stipulated that no passport for Jordanian citizens are to be issued or renewed until after the approval of authorities defined by the minister of interior, was first rejected by the Lower House and then referred to the Senate.

The Senate's legal committee, in Monday's session, endorsed the law after an amendment which stipulated that no passports for Jordanian nationals will be issued or renewed by Jordanian embassies abroad, or diplomatic missions abroad, less with the approval of authorities defined by the minister of interior.

The law, which was issued by the government during the parliamentary recess, was prompted by a series of terrorist attacks on Jordanian diplomats and interests inside the Kingdom and abroad which Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat said were mostly carried out by Jordanians influenced by foreign ideas opposed to the government.

According to the new amended law, if applied, Jordanians abroad seeking to obtain or renew pas-

ports would have to gain the approval of the General Intelligence Department, members of parliament told the Jordan Times.

In its Monday's session attended by Mr. Obeidat and cabinet members, the Senate voted 14 against 13 to endorse the law with the amendment. The amended provisional law was thus referred to the Lower House of Parliament for further study and debate before a final decision is taken.

If the Lower House endorsed the amendment, the law would be passed and applied. However, if it was rejected, the Senate would have to debate it again and if it maintained its endorsement, a joint session of the Senate and the Lower House would be convened for a joint debate and final verdict. If the Senate changed its vote in the second debate in favour of rejecting the law together with the amendment, the law would not be applied.

After the amendment of the passport law was incorporated, the law was endorsed by legal committee members Mr. Badran, Mr. Khalifeh, Mr. Tarawneh and Mr. Qar'aa. It was rejected by Mr. Rifa'i, Mr. Hanania, Mr. Salah and Mr. Amro. Mr. Fayez joined them in his rejection of the amended law.

A number of senators interferred to refute the constitutional status of the provisional law and provoked a general vote which resulted in endorsing the amendment by 14 votes against 13.

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## Gromyko, Shultz reopen U.S.-Soviet arms dialogue

GENEVA (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz met in Geneva Monday to seek a new framework for arms negotiations, ending a 13-month hiatus in superpower dialogue on nuclear weapons.

Soviet concern to halt Washington's plans for space-based weapons, restated by President Konstantin Chernenko on Saturday, overshadowed the start of the two-day talks.

The Soviet Union is insisting on a space weapons ban as a first priority while the U.S. has said they will not negotiate on President Reagan's "star wars" space defence research project.

The talks opened in the Soviet Villa Rosa, a venue for earlier talks broken off by the Soviet Union 13 months ago, after Mr. Shultz and his team, guarded by heavily-armed Swiss security men, were driven at speed through snow-covered streets into the mission.

Mr. Gromyko, who has negotiated with eight previous U.S. secretaries of state, asked Mr. Shultz if he was feeling tired from his transatlantic flight before the two six-man delegations sat down at opposite sides of a dark wooden table for the morning session which lasted three and a half hours.

Mr. Shultz left the Soviet mission at the end of the first session of talks, which marked a return to dialogue after U.S.-Soviet relations chilled to near freezing point a year ago.

The two ministers were meeting in the U.S. mission in the afternoon and held at least one more meeting Tuesday.

Mr. Gromyko was also to meet Mr. Shultz at a reception given by the U.S. mission Monday evening.

Both U.S. and Soviet officials cautioned against expecting firm agreement to emerge from the highly complex talks, which encompass a range of nuclear intermediate, long-range and space weapons.

The Soviet boycott of negotiations on the two sets of nuclear arms — known as INF and

START — began in late 1983 after the United States began deploying Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Europe.

Moscow has emphasised the all-embracing nature of the new talks, stressing the need for a space weapons ban, while the United States wants to concentrate on reducing the arsenal of devastating offensive weapons.

The different approaches were highlighted by Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko in statements here Sunday. Mr. Gromyko said he was seeking guidelines for negotiations to ban space weapons and cut back the nuclear arsenal.

Mr. Shultz did not mention space weapons and said he had no illusions about making rapid progress in Geneva.

Western diplomats said they regarded the Geneva talks as the start of a long haul back to negotiation on specific arms issues and was likely that Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko would announce nothing more than agreement to meet again.

As well as the diverging approaches of the two superpowers, former U.S. officials suggested at the weekend that divisions continued within the American delegation.

Former Under-Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said argument between the Defence Department oriented "hawks" and State Department "doves" could paralyse the new talks.

Lebanon, Israel say talks heading for failure

NAQOURA, Lebanon (R) — Lebanon Monday edged closer to Israel's position on a troop withdrawal from South Lebanon, but both countries suggested the talks were headed for failure after Israel declared the Lebanese move inadequate.

Israeli spokesman Yona Gazit said Israel would reply officially in due course to a Lebanese statement accepting a bigger U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) throughout South Lebanon. But he said it was possible that these would be no meeting on Thursday, the next scheduled day of talks.

The talks have been deadlocked since they began on Nov. 8 over who will police the south after an Israeli withdrawal.

When Monday's talks started, a Lebanese spokesman told reporters: "We want a big role for UNIFIL in all territory from which the IDF (Israeli Defence Force) will withdraw."

Lebanon has said it wants its army to move into all South Lebanon, supported by UNIFIL only near the border, meeting suggestions for a UNIFIL role elsewhere by saying the point is a matter for talks between Lebanon



The Upper House of Parliament, at the outset of a regular session Monday, observes a minute of silence in mourning for Fahd Al Qawasmeh, a Palestine Liberation Organisation Executive Committee member, who was assassinated in Amman Dec. 29 (Petra photo)

## Jordan, PLO holding talks

By Lamis K. Andoni  
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Senior Jordanian and Palestinian representatives held their first formal round of talks Sunday to formulate a joint strategy to solve the Palestinian question, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said Monday.

An Amman-based PLO official told the Jordan Times that the meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud representing the Jordanian side while head of the PLO's Political Department Fatah Kaddoumi and PLO Executive Committee members Brigadier Abdul Razaq Al Yahya and Abdul Rahim Ahmad represented the Palestinian side.

The official, who asked not to be named, said that the PLO's perception of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian political initiative as outlined by His Majesty King Hussein during the opening of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman last November was discussed.

The King called on the PLO to formulate a joint political initiative based on United Nations Resolution 242. The PNC reiterated the PLO's rejection of 242 but referred the king's proposals, which include a call for an international peace conference on the Middle East, to the PLO Executive Committee.

The official explained that the PLO has not given a final reply to the king's proposals. He said that the PLO's rejection of 242 should not constitute an obstacle to future Jordanian-Palestinian coordination.

In an interview with the Associated Press in Amman Mr. Ahmad said that two sides are expected to resume the talks in more detail after two weeks.

Mr. Kaddoumi, who heads the PLO delegation for the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, left Amman for Tunis Monday.

The PLO official arrived in Amman last week to pay condolences to the family of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd Al Jawasmeh, who was assassinated in here 10 days ago.

During his stay here, Mr. Kaddoumi held a meeting with Mr. Masri and attended a working luncheon hosted by the King for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and a high-level PLO delegation.

The PLO delegation to the

(Continued on page 3)

## Amman stock market turnover falls 60%

By Ibrahim Noori  
 Reuters

AMMAN — Jordan's official stock market, the Amman Financial Market (AFM), suffered a fall in turnover of nearly 60 per cent last year after a 10 per cent rise in 1983, AFM General Manager Hashem Sabbagh said Monday.

Mr. Sabbagh, in an interview with Reuters, cited the Iran-Iraq war and economic setbacks in Gulf countries, as well as reduced Arab aid and remittances to Jordan, as major factors behind the poor performance.

But he said recent import curbs imposed by Jordan on luxury goods, higher tariffs to protect domestic industry and a government tendency to raise public sector expenditure could lead to a steady market recovery in the second half of 1985.

He said market turnover last year totalled 59.6 million dinars (\$146.4 million) after 140.6 million dinars (\$345.5 million) in 1983 and 5.6 million dinars (\$13.8 million) in 1978 when the AFM was established.

A total of 41.1 million shares were traded last year, 33 per cent less than in 1983, while the AFM share price index fell 32.6 points, or 21.4 per cent.

## New Syrian-Libyan stand seen as pressure against PLO factions

By Lamis K. Andoni  
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Syria's implicit withdrawal of recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the organisation now exists and Libya's call for the formation of a new Palestinian leadership have constituted an indirect, but very serious, pressure on Damascus-based independent Palestinian factions which resist the idea of a substitute PLO but say that political polarisation in

the Palestinian arena will be mainly determined by the political strategy PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will opt for.

Both the Syrian and Libyan statements, which were viewed seriously by PLO officials here, were made at the opening session of the eighth congress of Syria's ruling Ba'ath Party last Saturday. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said that he no longer believed that the PLO, as it now exists under the leadership of Mr. Arafat, represents the Palestinian people.

Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, second-in-command to Colonel Muammar Qadhafi of Libya, called on independent and Syrian-backed Palestinian factions to unite under a new leadership. Supporters and critics of Mr. Arafat's policies viewed the Syrian and Libyan remarks as an important turning point in the Syrian-Palestinian conflict and expressed fears that the conflict is nearing a point of no return.

(Continued on page 3)

## Panamanian ship hit in Iraqi attack

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A Panamanian-registered freighter, the Topaz Express, was hit by an Iraqi missile Monday, its captain told the Associated Press in a shore-to-ship telephone interview after Iraq announced its warplanes raided two "large naval targets" near the Iranian Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf waters.

The captain, Innocentes Jara, said he and 14 other crew members from the Philippines had suffered no casualties and the damage inflicted was "minor."

He said the attack took place as his vessel was 140 kilometres southeast of Kharg Island and outside the Iran-Iraq war zone.

He said he had unloaded a cargo shipment at Iran's Bandar Khomeini port and was on his way out of the Gulf when the attack occurred.

Only minor damage was sustained because the vessel was in ballast, he said.

The captain said he believed his 14,260-ton freighter was hit because it was cruising between two tankers that had loaded crude oil at Kharg Island and were also on their way south.

The announcements of the two separate raids were made within two hours of each other.

There was no confirmation of a second attack.

Announcing the first attack over Baghdad's state radio, a military spokesman said all Iraqi jet fighters which carried out the attack returned safely to base.

The attacks were the first reported by Iraq against ships plying Iranian ports this year.

According to the spokesman,

the attacks were carried out due to the "Iranian regime's insistence on continuing the war against Iraq and due to the Iranian regime's determination to use its revenues in financing the continued aggression on our people."

The Iraqi air force, according to the spokesman, will "maintain the blockade imposed on Kharg Island and other Iranian ports until the Iranian regime accepts the call for peace and until Iraq regained its right to free navigation" across the Gulf region.

By the count of the London-based Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit, a total of 65 tankers and freighters have been damaged in the tanker war by both sides throughout 1984. Iraq was responsible for the bulk of the attacks.

(Continued on page 2)

## Sudan accuses Ethiopia of trading Jews for arms

LONDON (Agencies) — Sudan accused Ethiopia Monday of trading its black Jews for arms and money and denied any secret deal with Israel.

A Foreign Ministry statement issued by the Sudanese embassy in London rejected press reports that Sudan, which borders Ethiopia, had helped Israel to airlift thousands of Ethiopian Jews in recent weeks.

"Ethiopia has always been using the Ethiopian Jews as a bargaining card with Israel for obtaining arms and money," the statement said.

It said the Marxist government in Addis Ababa was receiving military hardware and cash through an Israeli firm called Amiral Trading Company which had offices in Ethiopia.

The Foreign Ministry said some of the arms, which Israel was shipping to Ethiopia, had been captured during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

But Israeli operation to airlift Ethiopian Jews came to an abrupt halt at the weekend after massive publicity about the covert action which until last week was secret.

Sudan said it had always served as a haven for Ethiopian and other refugees regardless of their race, colour or religion. It said thousands of the Ethiopian refugees had left for European and other countries with the help of the United Nations relief agencies in Sudan.

The statement said Ethiopia was responsible for its refugees, adding that those who had flown to Israel had done so under an Ethiopian-Israeli deal.

It described any suggestions of collusion between Sudan and Israel on the airlift as a "Zionist-

Ethiopian" plot.

It referred to "the Israeli enemy which is still occupying Palestinian and other Arab territories."

The Khartoum representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Sunday that the allegations of Sudanese involvement in the airlift were an attempt to brand "this Arab country as a Zionist ally."

Gamal Arafat, brother of PLO leader Yasser Arafat, said in an interview with Sudanese Television that he did not believe Sudan would ever participate in such an operation, adding "I fully trust Sudan's adherence to Arabism and the Islamic faith."

Ethiopia has accused Sudan and other countries of "illegal and clandestine operations" after reports emerged that thousands of Ethiopian Jews, or Falashas, had been

flown secretly from Sudan to Israel by way of European countries.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Hashim Osman summoned heads of various Arab, African and Asian diplomatic missions to a meeting Sunday to brief them on allegations that his country had facilitated the airlift.

In Israel, Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday that Israel would eventually succeed in bringing all the black Jews of Ethiopia to Israel.

In a speech to a Jerusalem university, Mr. Peres said the recent airlift of Falashas had run into "a number of problems."

The airlift halted after the Brussels-based charter firm Trans European Airways (TEA) said it could no longer continue the flights. Israeli officials say the



# Morocco seeks summit with African neighbours

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — King Hassan of Morocco was in contact with his North African neighbours to arrange a five-power summit conference on outstanding issues dividing the region, the newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat reported Monday.

It quoted the king as saying in an interview that Tunisia and Algeria have accepted an invitation to the projected summit, while Libya and Mauritania have not been heard from.

He denied reports about Morocco's massing troops along its border with Algeria.

The North African powers have been locked in discord over the Sahara issue, with the Polisario rebels trying to attain autonomy. The Sahara issue had precipitated Morocco's withdrawal from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) last year.

"Morocco has asked its friends not to withdraw from the Organisation of African Unity," King Hassan told the paper. "We were not shirking our responsibility toward the African community when we withdrew from the organisation."

The king insisted on holding a plebiscite in the Sahara region with a view to "allowing its own people determine their own political future."

He revealed that his government in recent years tried "three times to re-establish diplomatic ties with Mauritania, but our requests have been turned down."

Mauritania at the height of the Sahara problem broke off diplomatic ties with Morocco, with each country claiming the region as an integral part of its own territory.

King Hassan said he expected the long-delayed pan-Arab summit conference would be convened in Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia, "within the next three months."

He did not elaborate on that point. But he praised the Saudi King Fahd for his "patience, flexibility and prudence in handling Arab problems."

Arab diplomatic sources said meanwhile that a flurry of diplomatic contacts was underway to hold the summit in Riyadh early this year. They said that Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat were actively promoting efforts to get the summit underway.

Mr. Klibi visited Iraq last month, while Mr. Arafat toured a number of Arab capitals to encourage participation in the projected summit.

The Arab summit was to have been held in Riyadh in November 1983, but it was impeded by snowballing intra-Arab bickering. The Arab League heads of state last held a summit meeting in the Moroccan city of Fez in September 1982.

The Moroccan king, who conferred with Mr. Klibi twice last month, had proposed hosting a special Arab summit conference to discuss Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Egypt was ostracised from the Arab fold for signing what Arab countries described as a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

King Hassan's proposal was politely turned down by a number of Arab leaders as untimely, Arab diplomats here said.

The Saudi leadership has been quietly trying to get the Arab League to act at summit level to solve

the Lebanese problem and accelerate efforts to bring the 51-month-old Iran-Iraq war to an end.

But Arab diplomats along the Gulf region said that Syria was the main Arab power opposed to the idea of convening a summit.

The Syrians, they said, apparently fear a summit would reaffirm the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Syria and the PLO have been at loggerheads over Mr. Arafat's policies, which have lately pushed him closer to Jordan and Egypt on the path of a Middle East settlement.

King Hassan defended his recent Morocco-Libya unity pact which, he said, "won't harm anyone in the present or the future."

"It is a unity framework to which any Arab or African country can be admitted," the king said.

Responding to a question, King Hassan said the "U.S. reservations on the unity pact were more sentimental than rational."

"America does not believe in (Libyan leader Col. Muammar) Qadhafi or in his integrity," he said. "America has been accusing him (Qadhafi) of all evil committed in the world, while forgetting that there are nations greater and bigger than Libya and committing unlawful and terrorist perpetrations."

He said that Morocco has been "explaining the unity pact to Washington... and they seem to understand."

"I say that America, despite her emotional tendency against Libya, has been showing understanding," he said. "The Americans have not changed their policy toward Morocco. They have not relinquished their commitments to (AID) Morocco."



KING VISITS ARMY HQ: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces Monday called at the army headquarters in Amman and met with Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. They discussed a number of topics of concern to the armed forces on which the King passed directives. (Petra photo)

Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. They discussed a number of topics of concern to the armed forces on which the King passed directives. (Petra photo)

## Turkish minister to face charges

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — Premier Turgut Ozal has said that a cabinet minister who resigned a day earlier was under investigation for possible corruption.

"We handed the case over to justice (officials)," Mr. Ozal said of former State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar, who resigned on Saturday.

Mr. Ozal, whose remarks to reporters during a tour of the central Konya province were carried by the semi-official Anatolia News Agency, described the possible charges against Mr. Ozdaglar as "serious". He did not elaborate.

He also noted that it was "perhaps the first time in Turkey" that the government had handed the Justice Ministry information against one of its members.

Mr. Ozal partially reshuffled his cabinet Saturday following Mr. Ozdaglar's resignation.

Meanwhile, 40 deputies of Mr. Ozal's ruling Motherland Party presented a censure motion against Mr. Ozdaglar to the parliament because of the possible corruption charges. Anatolia reported.

In a statement to Anatolia on Sunday, Mr. Ozdaglar said he was "shocked" by the latest developments.

He said that "nothing but a plot" could bring corruption charges against him.

On Saturday, he was quoted by Anatolia as saying that he had resigned because of poor health.

Mr. Ozdaglar, who at 34 was the youngest member of the Ozal cabinet, was replaced by energy Minister Cemal Buyukbas, 55.

Mr. Ozdaglar has been in charge of Turkey's state-owned petrochemical installations and fertilizer factories. He also served as Mr. Ozal's emissary to foreign countries on petroleum matters.

## Halefoglu: Turkey will not allow missile bases

BAHRAIN (R) — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu, at present visiting Bahrain, has said NATO member Turkey will never allow foreign missile bases on its territory.

"We will never allow any country to set up or erect on our land any kind missile system," the Kuwaiti newspapers Al Rai Al Aam and Al Qabas Monday quoted him as saying.

Mr. Halefoglu arrived here Sunday night from Kuwait and had talks Monday with Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, an official spokesman said. He gave no details but the Gulf war and bilateral relations were expected to be major topics.

"Endeavours to end the war (between Iran and Iraq) have reached a virtual deadlock. No-one is able to put forward any new concrete initiative," the Kuwaiti newspapers also quoted Mr. Halefoglu as saying in an interview.

Turkey is a member of an Islamic peace mission set up in 1981 by the Islamic conference organisation to seek an end to the war, now in its fifth year.

Mr. Halefoglu later called on the Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa.

Officials said he delivered messages from President Kenan Evren inviting the Emir and his son and heir-apparent Sheikh Hamad to visit Turkey.

## Coptic Pope makes first official appearance

CAIRO (R) — Coptic Pope Shenouda III, released last week from 40 months of desert banishment, received an ecstatic welcome from 11,000 followers who gathered in Cairo's Saint Mark's Cathedral early Monday to attend Christmas mass.

Security was strict as Pope Shenouda, making his first public appearance since his release on Tuesday, entered the cathedral to thunderous clapping and cheering.

Police conducted thorough identity checks and anti-riot troops were stationed near the cathedral for the two-and-a-half hour service.

The 62-year-old pope, wearing a red cape embroidered with gold crosses and a gem-studded crown topped with a gold cross, conducted the mass in both the Arabic and Coptic languages. The service was broadcast live on state-run radio.

"Religion is a voyage to the heart of God through the hearts of people," Pope Shenouda said in a sermon.

He said the presence of Muslims

invited to attend the Christmas service was "an expression of the unity of Egypt."

Pope Shenouda was stripped of his temporal powers and banished to a western desert monastery in September 1981 by the late President Anwar Sadat who accused him of fomenting sectarian strife and meddling in politics. He has denied the charges.

The banishment of the Pope, whose Orthodox Church was founded by Saint Mark and says it has 22 million followers throughout the world, came at a time when Mr. Sadat detained 1,600 of his religious and political critics.

President Hosni Mubarak, who took office after Mr. Sadat was assassinated in October 1981 by Muslim gunmen, released the Pope on Jan. 1 as a New Year gesture to Egypt's estimated six million Copts, diplomats said.

Adel Rafael, an organiser of Monday's mass and a nephew of the Pope, told Reuters that 48,000 people had asked to attend the service but the cathedral could hold only 11,000 people.

## APU discusses postal services in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — Postal services in the Arab World and the preparation of a book on the history of Arab postal services were discussed during a meeting of the Arab Postal Union's (APU) Executive Council, Director of Postal Services at the Communications Ministry Hashem Al Qudah said Monday.

Mr. Qudah, who has returned to Amman from Sharjha, United Arab Emirates, after representing Jordan to the meetings of the APU's executive council, said that conferees also discussed the main guidelines of a regional plan for developing postal services, which will be put into effect during the next five years.

The APU's Executive Council

has also adopted a number of recommendations pertaining to introducing the active postal service and formed a working group to discuss introducing electronic postal services.

Mr. Qudah added that the conferees proposed a programme of action for providing aid to some African states.

The programme also provides for earmarking a number of scholarships for African students to study at the Arab Postal College and holding joint seminars between Arab and African countries.

The council expressed its gratitude to Jordan for issuing a stamp of Palestine, whose proceeds will go to the martyrs families.

## Israeli judge's testimony reportedly backs Sharon

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, architect of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, left Monday for New York to continue his libel suit against Time magazine armed with fresh testimony which he said backs up his case.

The Justice Ministry said former supreme court President Yitzhak Kahan, who headed Israel's inquiry into the 1982 Beirut massacre of Palestinian refugees, has testified that a secret appendix of his report did not indicate Mr. Sharon discussed revenge with Falange militiamen.

Mr. Sharon, defence minister at the time, is suing the U.S. magazine for \$50 million for alleging that the appendix said he had discussed avenging the death of Falange leader Bashir Gemayel with Mr. Gemayel's family.

The Israeli cabinet refused to allow the appendix to be viewed in court in New York but agreed that Kahan could provide the court with "yes" or "no" replies to three questions on its contents.

Before leaving, a jubilant Sharon told reporters the new testimony "proves beyond any doubt Time magazine lied."

A Justice Ministry spokesman said Kahan replied "no" to the following three questions submitted by the court:

Do the documents show or hint Mr. Sharon held a discussion with the Gemayel family or a member of the Falangists in which he discussed the need of avenging the murder?

Do they indicate that Mr. Sharon held a discussion with a Falangist in which either mentioned the need for revenge?

Do they indicate Mr. Sharon knew in advance the Falangists would massacre civilians if they entered the Beirut camps unaccompanied by Israeli forces?

Mr. Sharon, architect of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, is fighting for leadership of the right-wing Likud Bloc. If his headline-hitting libel suit succeeds it will be a major boost for his political ambitions, according to Israeli commentators.

## Ethiopia traded Jews for arms

(Continued from page 1)

exodus, code-named "Operation Moses," has been endangered by the huge publicity it has attracted.

Information on the operation was released by the Israeli government at a news conference last week after a Jewish Agency official told a magazine published by the Gush Emunim, an extremist Jewish group, that the majority of Ethiopian Jews had arrived in Israel.

Two small opposition parties, the right-wing Tehiya and left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement, tabled motions of no-confidence over the news conference.

A Jewish Agency spokesman said European airline companies have offered to help Israel renew the operation.

The spokesman estimated the refugees still in Ethiopia at 12,000, but declined to specify which airlines are involved.

London's Daily Mirror reported Monday that Israel has

begun flying transport planes to makeshift dirt airstrips in northern Ethiopia to take out the remaining Jews.

The unattributed report said that Ethiopian troops have been sent to the north to try to seal off the area and halt the evacuation.

Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdull Salam Al Tureiki said Sunday Libya will call for an emergency Arab League meeting to discuss the airlift.

The official Libyan News Agency JANA said Mr. Tureiki told this to Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, who arrived in Tripoli Saturday night.

JANA also said the Foreign Ministry called in the Ethiopian ambassador to express Libya's concern over the airlift and to ask for clarification.

Iran accused Sudan Sunday of cooperating in the airlift and said that "this action" by Sudan "is a blatant violation of the resolutions of the Islamic conference and the Arab community."

## Libya states conditions for Britons' release

LONDON (Agencies) — A Libyan newspaper said Monday that all Libyan students held in British jails must be set free in return for the release of four Britons held in Libya.

The Al Zahf Al Akhdar said in an editorial that Libya's People's Congresses decided over the weekend that the four Britons would only be released if certain conditions were met. The ideological weekly journal, published by the country's revolutionary committees, said Britain must free all Libyan students and end what it called the "poisonous anti-Libyan propaganda campaign" in the British media.

The editorial, broadcast over Libyan Radio and monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), also said the British government must undertake not to engage in "provocations" against Libyan students nor offer shelter to "terrorists hostile to the Libyan people."

The Britons were detained when relations between the two countries were broken last April after a London policeman was killed by shots fired from the Libyan embassy at demonstrators protesting against Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

They are Alan Russell, a teacher of expatriate children, Malcolm Anderson, an oil company technician, Robin Plummer, a British telecom engineer, and Michael Berdinner, a lecturer in English at Tripoli University.

The Al Zahf Al Akhdar accused Britain of mounting a watchhunt against Libyan students with the encouragement of the Reagan administration. It said some had been jailed on trumped-up charges.

Col. Qadhafi said in a speech on Friday that he favoured releasing the four men but only the People's Congresses could decide their fate.

A special envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury was due to fly to Libya Monday for fresh talks aimed at winning the release of the

four detained Britons, a spokesman for the Anglican Church leader said.

Terry Waite, who visited Tripoli last month on the same mission, is expected to take a further message from Archbishop Robert Runcie to Col. Qadhafi, church sources said.

Waite said Sunday night that he had talked to Libyan Foreign Office officials by telephone and it was agreed he return Monday on a Libyan Airlines flight.

The Libyans asked Waite to provide proof of a guarantee he promised them that a "hot line" could be established to church leaders for the 5,000 Libyan students in Britain.

Waite would not comment on a report from Tripoli that one of the four British detainees, teacher Alan Russell, 49, was sentenced Sunday to three years and three months in prison on charges relating to allegations that he illegally gave information to a BBC reporter.

Mr. Ozal partially reshuffled his cabinet Saturday following Mr. Ozdaglar's resignation.

Meanwhile, 40 deputies of Mr. Ozal's ruling Motherland Party presented a censure motion against Mr. Ozdaglar to the parliament because of the possible corruption charges. Anatolia reported.

In a statement to Anatolia on Sunday, Mr. Ozdaglar said he was "shocked" by the latest developments.

He said that "nothing but a plot" could bring corruption charges against him.

On Saturday, he was quoted by Anatolia as saying that he had resigned because of poor health.

Mr. Ozdaglar, who at 34 was the youngest member of the Ozal cabinet, was replaced by energy Minister Cemal Buyukbas, 55.

Mr. Ozdaglar has been in charge of Turkey's state-owned petrochemical installations and fertilizer factories. He also served as Mr. Ozal's emissary to foreign countries on petroleum matters.

## TV & RADIO

| JORDAN TELEVISION         | BBC WORLD SERVICE                       |
|---------------------------|---|
| 630, 720, 1413 KHz        | 630, 720, 1413 KHz                      |
| <b>MAIN CHANNEL</b>       | 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Classical      |
| 17:00 Koran               | Guitar 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Ref-  |
| 17:10 Cartoons            | lections 07:00 World News 07:09 24      |
| 17:30 Children programmes | Hours News Summary 07:30 News Ideas     |
| 18:30 Sport               | 07:40 Book Choice 07:45 The World       |
| 19:00 News in English     | Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Rock         |
| 19:45 News Programme      | Salay 09:00 World News 09:09 24         |
| 20:00 News in Arabic      | Hours: News Summary 09:30 Sweet         |
| 20:30 Local Programme     | Soul Music Notebook 09:40 UK 18:00      |
| 21:15 Programmes Review   | World News 18:09 Reflections 18:15      |
| 21:30 Arabic Series       | The Art of Gerald Moore 18:30 Tippet    |
| 22:00 News in Arabic      | At 20 11:00 World News 11:09 British    |
| 23:00 Series Contd.       | Press Review 11:15 The World Today      |
|                           | 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look         |
|                           | Ahead 11:45 What's New 12:00 News       |
|                           | Summary followed by Discovery 12:30     |
|                           | Wives and Daughters 13:00 World         |
|                           | News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15     |
|                           | Letter from London 13:25 Scotland this  |
|                           | Week 13:30 Sports International 14:00   |
|                           | World News 14:15 Foreign Cor-           |
|                           | respondents 14:45 Sports Round-up       |
|                           | 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours:        |
|                           | News Summary 15:30 Network UK           |
|                           | 15:45 Recording of the Week 16:00       |
|                           | Look 16:45 Behind the Universe 17:00    |
|                           | Radio News 17:15 A Jolly Good           |
|                           | Show 18:00 World News 18:09 Con-        |
|                           | tinental 18:15 Omnibus 18:45 The        |
|                           | World Today 19:00 World News 19:09      |
|                           | Meridian 19:40 Scotland This Week       |
|                           | 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk    |
|                           | 20:30 Nature Notebook 20:40 The For-    |
|                           | ming World 21:00 Outlook: News          |
|                           | Summary 21:30 Stock Market Report       |
|                           | 21:45 That's the Trid 22:00 World News  |
|                           | 22:09 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30      |
|                           | Foreign Correspondent 23:00 News        |
|                           | Summary: Letter from London 23:10       |
|                           | Book Choice 23:15 Concert Hall 24:00    |
|                           | World News: The World Today 06:25       |
|                           | Scotland this Week 06:30 Financial      |
|                           | News 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sports     |
|                           | Round-up 07:00 World News 07:30         |
|                           | Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus    |
|                           | 20:30 Special English News and Fea-     |
|                           | tures                                   |
|                           |   |
| <b>RADIO JORDAN</b>       | <b>VOICE OF AMERICA</b>                 |
| 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM  | MW 1260, SW 7200, 9565, 11740,          |
| & partly on 9560 KHz, SW  | 11925 and 15210 KHz                     |
| 07:00 Light Music         | 06:00 VOA Morning: News, Informal       |
| 07:30 News Desk           | Presentation of Popular Music with Fea- |
| 08:00 Morning Show        | ture Reports, Interviews, Answers to    |
| 10:00 News Summary        | Listeners' Questions, Science Digest,   |
| 10:30 Morning Show        | Sports News at 30 minutes past the      |
| 11:00 Pop Session         | hour. 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30   |
| 12:00 News Summary        | Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus        |
| 13:00 Pop Session         | 18:30 Special English News and Fea-     |
| 14:00 News Bulletin       | tures 18:40 News 18:10 Newsline 19:30   |
| 14:30 News Bulletin       | Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus    |
| 15:00 Science Fiction     | 20:30 Special English News and Fea-     |
| 16:00 Concert Hour        | tures                                   |
| 16:30 News Summary        |   |
| 17:00 News Summary        |   |
| 17:30 News Summary        |   |
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| 22:30 News Summary        |   |
| 23:00 News Summary        |   |
| 23:30 News Summary        |   |
| 24:00 News Summary        |   |

## WHAT'S GOING ON

| TODAY'S EVENTS  | EXHIBITIONS  |
|---|--|
| 664240, Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37160. | * An art exhibition of oil paintings by Nawal Radi Al Abdulla at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 16).  |
|   | * An exhibition of architectural engineering at Yarmouk University (until Jan. 9).   |
|   | <b>CULTURAL CENTRES</b>  |
|   | Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267   |
|   | American Centre 44371  |
|   | American Cultural Library 41520  |
|   | British Council 36147-8  |
|   | French Cultural Centre 37009   |
|   | Goethe Institute 41993   |
|   | Soviet Cultural Centre 44263   |
|   | Spanish Cultural Centre 34049  |
|   | Turkish Cultural Centre 39777  |
|   | Haya Arts Centre 665195  |
|   | Y.W.C.A. 41793   |
|   | Amman Municipal Library 36111  |
|   | University of Jordan Library 843555  |
|   | <b>MUSEUMS</b>   |
|   | Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.   |
|   | Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a ( Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.  |
|   | Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists artists. Montazah, Jabal Lubdud. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. |
|   | Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel.  |
|   | <b>CHURCHES</b>  |
|   | St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.  |
|   | Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubdud, 37440.   |
|   | De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Husein, 661757.  |
|   | Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.   |
|   | Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.   |
|   | Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, 775261.  |
|   | Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah, 775261.  |
|   | St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafiah, 771751.  |
|   | Amman International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shateibani, 816534.  |
|   | <b>PRAYER TIMES</b>  |
|   | 06:10 (Sunrise) Fajr   |
|   | 06:32 (Sunrise) Dhuhr  |
|   | 11:49 Asr  |
|   | 14:06 Maghreb  |
|   | 18:29 Isha   |

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

## AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

|       |                           |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 09:30 | Agaba (RU)                |
| 09:30 | Dubai (RU)                |
| 09:45 | Kuwait (RU)               |
| 09:45 | Jeddah (RU)               |
| 09:45 | Cairo (RU)                |
| 09:55 | Dhahran (RU)              |
| 09:55 | Dubai, Bahrain (RU)       |
| 10:00 | Muscat, Doha (RU)         |
| 10:10 | Larnaca, Damascus (RU)    |
| 10:20 | Beirut (RU)               |
| 10:20 | Cairo (MS)                |
| 10:25 | Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)      |
| 10:45 | Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RU) |
| 12:15 | Doha (GF)                 |
| 13:50 | Moscow (SV)               |
| 14:00 | Kuwait (RU)               |
| 16:15 | Baghdad (IA)              |
| 17:30 | New York, Vienna (RU)     |
| 18:00 | Amsterdam, Istanbul (KLM) |
| 18:30 | Cairo (RU)                |
| 19:45 | Tripoli (RU)              |
| 20:15 | Zurich, Larnaca (SR)      |
| 20:20 | Athens (OA)               |
| 20:40 | Rome, Damascus (AZ)       |
| 20:50 | Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)  |
| 00:00 | Cairo (RU)                |
| 01:10 | Baghdad (RU)              |

### DEPARTURES:

|       |                            |
|-------|----------------------------|
| 06:45 | Cairo (RU)                 |
| 07:10 | Beirut (RU)                |
| 07:15 | Agaba (RU)                 |
| 11:15 | Tripoli (RU)               |
| 11:20 | Cairo (MS)                 |
| 11:45 | Geneva, Madrid (RU)        |
| 12:00 | Paris, London (RU)         |
| 12:15 | Amsterdam, New York (RU)   |
| 12:15 | Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)       |
| 12:15 | Istanbul, Bucharest (RU)   |
| 12:20 | Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RU) |
| 12:30 | Rome (RU)                  |
| 13:00 | Bahrain (GF)               |
| 14:30 | Cairo (RU)                 |
| 14:50 | Moscow (SV)                |
| 15:40 | Kuwait (KU)                |
| 17:15 | Baghdad (IA)               |
| 19:30 | Kuwait (RU)                |
| 20:30 | Abu Dhabi, Cairo (RU)      |
| 20:45 | Cairo (RU)                 |
| 21:10 | Baghdad (RU)               |
| 22:00 | Bangkok (RU)               |

## MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

|                    |
|--------------------|
| — Golden Ghana     |
| — Kritt Diamond    |
| — Al Zawra         |
| — Aboudy           |
| — Lides            |
| — Kota Agung       |
| — Pavel Antokolski |
| — Jolly Nero       |

Amir Kewar and Sons Company, Tel: 22324 (six lines) at your service.

## MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in fits

|                        |         |        |
|------------------------|---------|--------|
| Belgian franc          | 63.91   | 64.2   |
| Dutch guilder          | 113.27  | 113.9  |
| Egyptian pound         | 302.11  | 305.3  |
| French franc           | 41.81   | 42.8   |
| Iraqi dinar            | 341.57  | 349.1  |
| Italian lire (for 100) | 20.87   | 21     |
| Japanese yen (for 100) | 155.4   | 160.3  |
| Kuwaiti dinar          | 132.9   | 1331.6 |
| Lebanese lira          | 42.37   | 43.7   |
| Omani rial             | 1166.69 | 1175   |
| Qatari rial            | 110.69  | 111.3  |
| Saudi rial             | 115.13  | 114.1  |
| Swedish krona          | 44.39   | 45.1   |
| Swiss franc            | 153.87  | 154.7  |
| Syrian rial            | 38.37   | 39.7   |
| UAE dirham             | 109.87  | 110.5  |
| U.S. sterling pound    | 463.80  | 466.6  |
| U.S. dollar            | 406     | 408    |
| W. German mark         | 127.87  | 128.5  |

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Medium and high clouds will be there with southwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Low/high temperature in deg. C: |       |
| Amman                           | 19/16 |
| Aqaba                           | 8/21  |
| Deserts                         | 1/17  |
| Jordan Valley                   | 10/20 |

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 17, Aqaba 22. Humidity readings: Amman 23 per cent, Aqaba 23 per cent.



## Saket: Illiteracy rate dropping

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has about 352,000 illiterate people, of whom 113,000 are males, according to the latest estimates of the number of illiterate people in Jordan, head of the Adult Teaching and Illiteracy Combat division at the Ministry of Education Abdul Katim Al Momani said Monday.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, on the occasion of 'Arab Day for Combating Illiteracy', Mr. Momani said that the figure represents 28.25 per cent of the total population whose ages are above 15. The illiteracy percentage among males is 17.37 while it is bigger among females, reaching 40.14 per cent, Mr. Momani added.

Mr. Momani pointed out that the Ministry of Education shoulders the responsibility for teaching adults and combating illiteracy and that it opens a class for any 15 people who display a willingness to learn. These classes are held at the literacy centres throughout the country which number 525 and which cater for about 10,000 students.

Concluding his statement Mr. Momani called for organising a comprehensive national campaign aimed at fighting illiteracy and absorbing all children who are of school age and remedying the socio-economic reasons behind school dropouts.

Speaking about the occasion, Minister Education Hikmat Al Saket said Jordan's celebration

Tuesday of the 'Arab Day for Combating Illiteracy', along with all brethren Arab countries is evidence of Jordan's absolute solidarity with the Arab World in the field of countering illiteracy and backwardness in all its forms.

Speaking about the methods Jordan has applied in reducing the illiteracy rate, Mr. Saket said that Jordan has followed two methods. The preventive method, which we have been following since 1952 when the Jordanian constitution was issued, and accordingly elementary education was declared compulsory and free from charge for all Jordanians. In 1964, the base was broadened to cover the preparatory cycle of education, thus bringing to nine the number of years of free and compulsory education.

The second method, Mr. Saket said, is a curative one which is based on opening educational centres for adults and illiterate people. Using these two methods, Mr. Saket added, we have been able to

reduce the illiteracy rate from 67.6 in the year 1961 to about 28 per cent at present.

Also speaking on the occasion was Director of Education at the Ministry of Education Izzat Jaradat who said that the illiteracy problem is part of the Arab education problem which entails rallying efforts and cooperating at the regional level.

Dr. Jaradat said that 42 per cent of the age group 15-45 in the Arab World are still suffering from illiteracy, a problem which is relatively high compared with the overall illiteracy rate of 29 per cent all over the world.

Speaking about illiteracy in the Arab World, Dr. Jaradat said the number of illiterate in the Arab World is 35 million people, noting that the illiteracy rate is dropping at the rate of two per cent a year, while the birth rate is three per cent. This, he said, means that traditional efforts for eliminating illiteracy are impossible.

## JYO requests youth centres to organise cultural activities

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Youth Organisation (JYO) has requested all youth centres to organise cultural and technical competitions and to hold exhibitions and seminars displaying the role of youth in development.

The JYO's request comes on

the occasion of the United Nations International Year of Youth, whose main theme is "participation, development and peace". The JYO has also requested centres to provide detailed programmes of these activities before Jan. 20.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## 477 killed in last year's road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 477 persons were killed and 8,103 people were injured in Jordan due to road accidents that occurred in the past year, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Public Security Department. The bulletin said that the casualties were a result of 1,45,064 accidents of which 1,548 occurred in July 1984 alone, resulting in the death of 68 people and the injury of 940 others. The month with the least number of accidents, 1,144, was February when 21 people were killed and 606 were injured, the bulletin said.

## Red Crescent donates to drought victims

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) has made a donation of \$1,500 to the Sudanese National Red Crescent Society and \$500 to the Mauritanian National Red Crescent Society to support drought-hit people in the two countries, JNRCS Chairman Ahmad Abu Qoura said. Dr. Abu Qoura pointed out that these funds came from donations by some Jordanian companies and institutions.

## Ajlouni inspects, tours hospitals

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Kamel Al Ajlouni Monday toured the gynaecology and obstetrics sections at Al Bashir hospital and discussed with the hospital's director and doctors the possibility of introducing a central medical register at the hospital. Dr. Ajlouni also visited Al Karamah hospital in the Jordan Valley and Zarqa hospital where he looked at the repair works currently being carried out there.

## Sarvath inaugurates art exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Sarvath opened at the Royal Cultural Centre Monday an art exhibition by Jordanian artist Nawal Radi Al Abdullah. On display at the week-long exhibition are 70 oil paintings depicting the local environment and Jordanian nature.

## GUVS president requests help for the needy

## Noor opens first centre for multi-handicapped

By Olga Mikhael  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor opened here Monday the 'Home of Hope' in Tla'a Al Ali, which is a centre for the welfare of the multi-handicapped. The home, the first of its kind in Jordan, was established and supported by the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan and will accommodate 40 to 60 multi-handicapped people from the East and West Banks of Jordan.

Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, president of the executive committee of GUVS, outlined during the opening ceremony, the achievements and projects of the executive committee which comprises around 600 charitable organisations and nine unions in the East and West Banks of Jordan.

"This centre will accommodate 40 to 60 people, but due to the urgent needs of other multi-handicapped people, the union is working on building a permanent home to accommodate around 200 handicapped persons," said Dr. Al Khatib. "We hope that the Jordanian government will participate in this project and donate a piece of land for that purpose," he added.

Dr. Al Khatib explained the role of the union in the West Bank, especially in the absence of a national government there. The union, he said, is taking care of the less privileged, the needy, the poor and is also taking care of the martyr's families in the West Bank.

Under the motto of "If you don't need it, we do", GUVS in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development has been carrying out a "Social Cooperation Campaign" all over Jordan.

"So far, through this campaign we have helped around 7,000 families, but we still need to cover more than 30,000 families that badly need the help of the more privileged people," Dr. Al Khatib said.

According to statistics provided by the union, the charitable societies help only five per cent of the handicapped cases in Jordan and the other 95 per cent are not covered and are in bad need for help and attention.

Dr. Al Khatib said that GUVS is cooperating with the University of Jordan to build a centre for treating cancer diseases. "We need JD 1 million for such a centre out of which we have collected only JD 117,000," he pointed out.

## More cooperation

Dr. Al Khatib then addressed Queen Noor and asked for her help and cooperation in carrying out such projects that are badly needed in the country. "We need to increase cooperation and coordination between different concerned parties and different societies that care for the handicapped in order to calculate the true needs and requirements of these less privileged people," Dr.

Al Khatib said. "We have a long waiting list and we must move quickly to help them since a large number of them do not have anyone to depend on," he added.

Attending the opening were Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jaber, Minister of Health Kamel Ajlouni, Prince Ra'ed and Princess Majida and former Minister of Social Development and special advisor to Queen Noor In'am Al Mufit.

Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jaber thanked Queen Noor for contribution to this activity, where less privileged people and those who are incapable of taking care of themselves are involved.

"This morning I have visited three centres for the handicapped. One is the National Association Centre, the second is Nazik Al Hariri Centre and the third is the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief," Dr. Abdul Jaber said.

"The Ministry, in its next five-year plan, will coordinate with the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund in order to provide the minimum requirements of help to the handicapped. We will also work on developing the services provided and the qualifications of the specialised people who work with the handicapped," he added.

At the end of the ceremony Queen Noor toured the centre and talked to the multi-handicapped children and adults who are helped and looked after by many Arab and English volunteers. The new centre cost JD 300,000 to build and its operating costs are expected to reach JD 70,000 by the end of the year.

## Upper House passes passport law after amendment

(Continued from page 1)

Therefore, the issue was again returned for discussion by the Lower House. Three members of the Senate were absent from the session during the vote.

Another important decision taken by the Senate Monday was the abolishing of tribal laws from the judiciary system in the Kingdom, an issue which provoked the reaction of a number of senators at the session.

Senator Rifa'i started the debate by delivering a speech in which he said the government should abolish tribal laws "on the ground and not only in theory." He said: "These laws are not consistent with the current state of social development in the Kingdom."

Mr. Rifa'i said the tribal laws were issued half a century ago to cater for bedouin affairs and control violence among various tribes at that time. He said that Jordan, through the past 50 years, has developed modern laws and legislations making all people equal in front of the law.

"Since that time, the gap between our modern legal system and cultural reality and tribal laws have widened," Mr. Rifa'i said.

He said although the government abolished tribal laws many years ago, "it still acted as if these laws still existed." He said the Jordanian judiciary system still considers that in a case when someone relinquishes his personal right against another, the sentence

by the court is reduced. He said criminal courts still consider the results of tribal procedures before announcing the final verdict.

"These practices should be condemned and ignored. They are an obstacle in the path of our national security and a source of trouble for people," he said in his speech.

In response to Mr. Rifa'i's speech, Interior Minister Suleiman Arar categorically denied that the government had encouraged tribal laws through its application of law. He said many tribal laws were abolished by the government and that it never happened that a court referred a case to be handled by tribal laws.

However, he said, "what used to happen was a way of calming down people through certain tribal traditions in cases of murder or crimes involving honour as they are sensitive issues."

Mr. Arar said: "We did not see any reason to abolish certain tribal traditions while at the same time applying the law of our courts. People misunderstood this point which is why we issued orders to newspapers to refrain from publishing tribal conciliation deeds."

Justice Minister Ahmad Tarawneh spoke during the session to explain that there is a difference between tribal laws and tribal traditions.

He said tribal traditions are accepted "as they often assist the government maintain the security of citizens." He said in order to abolish certain tribal laws, "we need the consent of all sectors of people in the society."

Senator Hayel Srour staunchly opposed the abolishment of tribal laws "without finding an alternative." He said: "I believe in the righteous tribal traditions, for God said in his Sacred Book, 'we created you peoples and tribes and not parties and classes.'"

Senator Nayef Khreisheh said: "We do not object to abolishing tribal laws but these laws have become a sort of habits which control us." He said these laws have become a part of the Jordanian society.

Senator Juma'a Hammad said: "Traditions cannot be abolished by a decision. They are connected to the society's development or regression."

Mr. Hammad explained that tribal laws have always controlled people in the badia (desert) region and that these laws would not disappear unless bedouins disappeared and replaced by urban. When the issue was proposed for voting, all attending members voted in favour of abolishing tribal laws except Mr. Srour.

The Senate had earlier referred the 1985 draft budget law to its Financial Committee and the Custom Tax Law to the legal and financial committees.

At the beginning of the session, the Senate observed one minute of silence in mourning for the assassinated Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member Fahd Jawasneh.

## Jordan, PLO holding talks

(Continued from page 1)

Jordanian-PLO talks used to include Mr. Qawasmeh and the PLO has not named another PLO Executive Committee member to replace him.

Palestinian sources told the Jordan Times Monday that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee to support the steadfastness of the people in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories will meet on Tuesday.

Mr. Qawasmeh was elected, few hours before his assassination, to head the Palestinian side in the joint committee.

The deputy military commander of the PLO, Khalil Al Wazir, will replace Mr. Qawasmeh as the head of the Palestinian side until a new member is named to fill Mr. Qawasmeh's vacant seat.

The sources pointed out that Mr. Wazir, who is not a PLO Executive Committee member, has always headed the PLO side whenever Hamed Abu Sittah the former head of the occupied territories affairs department in the PLO Executive Committee, was absent or out of the country.

Associated Press reporter John Rice adds: PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Rahim Ahmad said Monday that the PLO has received reports that Syria has sent trained assassins to Europe, Asia and the Middle East to kill PLO leaders.

Mr. Ahmad said "friends in Syria" reported that about 100 assassins left Syria about one month ago to kill Executive Committee members and other PLO leaders.

He said he did not know if the reports were accurate, but two other senior PLO leaders close to an investigation into the reports said they were convinced assassination squads had been sent out.

The two sources, who spoke on conditions of anonymity, gave different figures from Mr. Ahmad. They also mentioned Syria but added "another Arab country," which they did not name, was involved to.

One said that about 50 assassins

had been trained, equipped with forged documents and sent to kill Arab leaders in the Middle East and Far East.

The other said that 15 agents had been given forged Lebanese, Moroccan and Yemeni passports with false names. He said those names had been supplied to PLO offices in Europe, where the 15 were reportedly sent.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat blamed the killing of Mr. Qawasmeh on Syria, which bitterly opposes the PLO leadership's discussions with Jordan on a possible Middle East peace initiative.

Mr. Ahmad said his reports were that 16 of the assassins had been sent to Arab countries and "another group went to Western Europe, to Paris, to Athens, to Rome and Cyprus."

"About 15 people went to Asia — to Bangkok, the Philippines, Karachi," he added.

"Some of them may be from Saiga, some of them may be from Fateh. Some of them may be from another faction," he said. Saiga is a radical, Syrian-backed PLO faction, and Fateh is the largest PLO faction, divided between dissidents and those loyal to Mr. Arafat.

Mr. Ahmad said the assassins were reportedly trained and equipped by Syria.

"I don't know the number," he said. "But some of our sources say about 100 persons."

Mr. Ahmad and the other two PLO officials discounted a Kuwaiti newspaper report that Jordanian officials had arrested a man identified as Mahmoud Hassan Selim as a suspect in the killing of Mr. Qawasmeh.

"I think it is not true," Mr. Ahmad said. "They give a name and no one knows him."

Jordanian officials, however, have confirmed that some suspects are in custody, but they have not specified the number or released any names.

PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Milhem has denied other reports that he had been the target of an assassination attempt when he stopped in Karachi, Pakistan, while returning from a trip to Peking.

## Syrian, Libyan stand seen as pressure tactic

(Continued from page 1)

But while supporters of Mr. Arafat believe that Mr. Assad's declaration reflected a Syrian scheme to form a substitute organisation after its failure to control the present leadership of the PLO, Mr. Arafat's critics believe that by convening the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman last November and the apparently growing coordination between the PLO, Jordan and Egypt have served as pretexts for the Syrians to call for a new organisation.

The critics, particularly those who belong to the independent "democratic alliance", which still recognises the leadership of Mr. Arafat despite its opposition to most of his policies, believe that the unity of the PLO hinges heavily on the political line Mr. Arafat chooses to follow and on the progress of peace efforts in the area.

The "democratic alliance", which includes the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestinian Communist Party and the Palestine Liberation Front, has repeatedly voiced objections to Mr. Arafat's growing closeness to Egypt and Jordan and warned him "of getting dragged into American-sponsored peace settlements" to the Middle East conflict. "Democratic alliance" officials have also expressed fears in the past that a day will come when Syria decides it was time for all parties involved to choose the "camp they belong to."

And both "democratic alliance" officials and leaders of Fateh, the mainstream Palestinian commando movement and Mr. Arafat's power base within the PLO, agree that last Saturday's speeches by Mr. Assad and Major Jalloud implied a call for a polarisation in the Arab World.

Both the Syrian and Libyan leaders clearly based their analysis of the situation in the Arab World on the assumption that two Arab camps are emerging — one that is ready to tackle various peace plans and has abandoned armed struggle against Israel and another that endorses a "confrontation strategy" against "Zionist and imperialist schemes" in the area.

According to the Syrian and Libyan analogy, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and the PLO under the leadership of Mr. Arafat belong to the first camp and the second is led by Syria and Libya and presumably would include South Yemen, Algeria and independent and Syrian-backed Palestinian factions.

One of the features of such a

classification of the nature of alliances in the Arab World is that the majority of the Palestinians, who constitute a determining factor in such an equation, still support the leadership of Mr. Arafat and that the "democratic alliance" does not actually believe that the leadership of Fateh has totally abandoned the PLO's revolutionary course yet and consequently anticipates a continuation of dialogue to resolve the present political and organisational differences.

Apparently aware of this, Major Jalloud made his call Saturday on "all the Palestinian factions to stop being reluctant and join the confrontation front." In a rather long speech about the urgent need to build a strong confrontation front to counter "right-wing Arabs and surrenderers" Major Jalloud made it clear that the "confrontation front" needs the Palestinian card to be strong and on its side.

"It goes without saying that the progressive front would lose much without a strong Palestinian horse," he said.

Major Jalloud suggested an immediate unity between Syria and Libya and urged South Yemen and Algeria, without naming them, to take a decisive stance on the Syrian-Palestinian conflict and on inter-Palestinian differences. Both Algeria and South Yemen have been assuming the role of mediator between the PLO leadership and Syria and still recognise the leadership of Mr. Arafat.

Major Jalloud, however, blamed the "democratic alliance" for some Arab countries' reluctance to take final and decisive positions on Mr. Arafat's leadership. Addressing the "democratic alliance" by name, he said: "If you free yourself from hesitation you will encourage other Arab countries that are still reluctant to follow suit."

Neither the Syrian president nor the Libyan leader, however, explained where Saudi Arabia, which maintains special relations with Syria, and Morocco, which is bound by a union treaty with Libya, fit in this classification of alliances. The point, however, becomes secondary since the main issue discussed remains the future of the PLO and it affects the peace process.

"Democratic alliance" officials in Amman believe that the hostile Syrian stand has no doubt been pushing Mr. Arafat to pursue a line based on further closeness with Jordan and Egypt and expelling the various peace initiatives offered.

But, they argue, Mr. Arafat "will not go all the way since there

is nothing really substantial offered by the Americans or the Israelis."

"Democratic alliance" officials in Amman base their expectation on three basic assumptions: — First, until now neither the Americans have offered anything substantial nor the Israelis have shown any flexibility concerning the PLO or the rights of the Palestinian people.

— Secondly, the Central Committee Fateh will not accept any compromise of Palestinian rights.

— Thirdly, the stance of the Soviet Union, which recognises the legitimacy of the present PLO leadership and maintains strong ties with Syria, will always act as a restraining factor on Mr. Arafat's political moves and on Syria's drive to form a parallel PLO.

The Soviet Union did not send observers to the PNC session in Amman last November but sent a solidarity message to the Syrian Ba'athist congress over the weekend. The message expressed total support to Syria in the face of "Israeli and imperialist threats" but did not tackle the Syrian-PLO conflict.

Fateh leaders, who watched the congress on Syrian Television from Amman, expressed relief at the Soviet position.

Palestinian political observers in Amman, however, expressed the view that if Mr. Arafat's policies were only clearer, both on the Palestinian and international levels, the Soviet Union would have been more decisive in at least influencing the Syrian attitude towards the PLO.

In their turn, the Fateh leaders argue that Mr. Arafat cannot but keep all his options open, particularly that the Syrians have closed almost all loopholes through which he can return to Syria.

"Syria is the one that has been pushing the conflict to a point of no return and we believe that regardless of the line that Arafat will take, it will continue its schemes to destroy the PLO as far as Damascus fails to contain the organisation and we defend the independence of our decision making," a senior Fateh official said.

In his speech last Saturday President Assad accused the Fateh leadership of covering up for "their capitulatory policies" by the slogan of defending the independent Palestinian decision making.

But the Fateh official insisted that Mr. Assad's accusation "remains a big claim that lacks substantiation since Fateh has not given up any of the Palestinian rights and refused to enter any American-sponsored plans."

## French consortium to conduct technical, economic study on Shidiyeh project

AMMAN (Petra) — An agreement for conducting technical and economic feasibility studies on the Shidiyeh phosphate project in south Jordan was signed at the Ministry of Industry and Trade Monday between the Jordanian government and a French consortium of specialised companies.

In a statement to journalists, Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani said that the study includes three major elements: Specifying the quantities and methods of production in the Shidiyeh phosphate area, where deposits are estimated at 1,000 million tonnes; specifying the location of the population gathering which will reach a maximum of 25,000 people to develop the area and proceeding with production which is expected to reach nine million tonnes by the end of this century.

He also added that the feasibility and technical study of the project, which will be a key stone in the next five-year development plan, also includes reconsidering the current railway which transports Shidiyeh phosphates to Aqaba. The study will investigate setting up a new railway line to transport the phosphate and Dr. Anani pointed out that this railway will be part of a regional railway capable of transporting 25 million tonnes of goods annually. This railway, Dr. Anani added, will eventually stretch from the south to the north of the country and will be connected with the Hejaz Jordan Railway which formerly linked Jordan with Saudi Arabia and Syria.

Adopting the best solutions for increasing storage capacities and facilities for handling phosphates at the port of Aqaba, taking into consideration environmental factors, will also be covered by this study.

The Shidiyeh phosphate project director general, Mr. Samah Al Madani, said that the project's production plan includes producing three million tonnes in 1990 to be increased gradually to reach nine million tonnes by the end of this century. The project's executive committee is currently studying the possibility of speeding up the start of production to start in 1987 in the first stage in accordance with world markets needs. Mr. Madani added. The agreement was signed on behalf of the Jordanian government by Dr. Anani and for the French consortium by its director general.

## Blood units cost up to JD 100 in Irbid due to lack of sufficient quantities

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Writer

IRBID — The blood bank in Irbid stores up to 20 units of blood on a permanent basis and under all conditions to be offered "on loan" to those in need and for emergency operations and which is paid back by the beneficiaries or their relatives afterwards.

The blood bank is housed at Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid, which normally cooperates with other hospitals in the distribution of blood when necessary, according to Irbid Health Director Mu'in Al Ghoul. He said that the blood bank receives blood from donors and has no other sources for replenishment.

But in Irbid, it has been discovered that some people have been specialising in selling blood at exorbitant prices especially in view of the increasing number of road accidents which sometimes

result in injuries requiring emergency operations and blood.

One of Irbid's residents Khaleel Farid told Al Ra'i Arabic daily in a recent interview that he knocked down a man with his car and carried him to hospital where it was found that he needed a unit of blood of the Rhesus negative type. As it was an emergency and as the bank at that time had no Rhesus negative type of blood, I had to search for a donor and paid JD 80 for the required unit, Mr. Farid said.

## JD 100 for blood

One of the most notorious people in Irbid for selling blood, Mohammad Abdulla, claimed that he had sold a total of 30 kilograms of blood but said that he was not happy because he had been receiving JD 4 for a unit while his agent, who took the blood, sold it for JD 40 to JD 100 a unit.

A local pharmacist 'Iqab Othman said that the blood bank is considered as one of the pillars of the hospital since blood has no substitute in many cases, especially in operations, and because it saves people's lives, Mr. Othman suggests that certain conditions should therefore be available so that a blood bank can carry out its duties in full and in a proper manner. The blood bank should be housed in a place where it can receive donors, examine them and analyse blood samples before storing them or referring them to the surgeon, Mr. Othman said.

Since the bank now has no other blood source other than voluntary donors, he said, the Health Ministry should launch intensive campaigns to spread awareness among citizens and urge them to donate blood. Also, as is the case in other countries and to avert any shortages of blood in case of emergency, the government should make it compulsory for each person to donate blood, he added.

## Selecting donors

Mr. Othman said there should be regulations for selecting donors who are free of diseases, high blood pressure, syphilis and inflammation and that this can only be done through laboratory tests and analysis.

Questioned about the problem of people who continue to offer their blood for money, Dr. Ghoul said: "This handful of people have become well-known to us and we have instructed hospitals to refrain from taking their blood. I believe those who sell their blood for money are not in a sound physical or mental condition," Dr. Ghoul added.



The blood bank at Princess Basma hospital can only store up to 20 units of blood and negative blood types are often not available (Al Ra'i photo)



# Pressure is mounting in Israel for unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon

By Jean-Pierre Langellier

TEL AVIV — "I should like our army to withdraw completely and unilaterally from Lebanon," said Rafi Edri, leader of the Labour Party in the Knesset. "In the absence of a perfect solution, it will be the lesser evil. I'm opposed to a phased withdrawal. We have no more business over there."

In his view, it is quite clear that the Israeli army should quit Lebanon, and the sooner the better. So there is no point shilly-shallying. Since the Nakoura military negotiation is now getting nowhere due to Lebanese intransigence at Syrian behest, Israel must take the initiative.

During my interview with him at the Knesset, Rafi Edri, the Labour Party's rising star, declared: "Soon it will be a year since our party solemnly declared it favoured withdrawal from Lebanon. Since then the picture has hardly changed. Revocation of the May 17 agreement was predictable. Since then we have conducted an election campaign on the issue. Now that we are in

power, it's high time we kept our word."

The leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party faithfully reflects the overriding feeling in the ruling party's ranks. The Knesset's Labour members held a closed discussion on the subject on Christmas Eve at which half of those who took part in the debate expressed support for a total evacuation of Lebanon.

The stalemate at Nakoura and the failure of the mission conducted by the United States' Assistant Secretary of State, Richard Murphy, have changed Labour's weariness into resigned impatience.

"If by Jan. 7 (the date fixed for resuming the Nakoura talks), no new element has cropped up, the government should decide on the withdrawal," pointed out Mr. Edri.

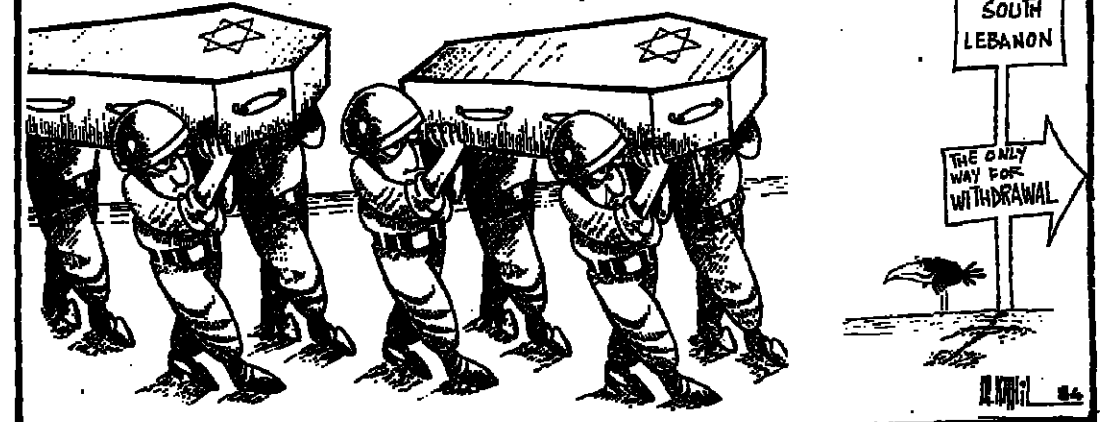
"This will come into effect within a period of six to nine months. I hope it will be even sooner than that."

Mr. Edri knows for a fact that a minority of Labour leaders hes-

itate, even refuse, to take this step without security arrangements. Minister of Health and former army chief of staff Motta Gur is in this position. "They will have to bow to the majority," he says. Twice in recent days Prime Minister Shimon Peres has recommended total withdrawal from Lebanon if the Nakoura talks break down. However, as he is anxious to preserve whatever slim chances there are for getting the discussions off the ground, he has taken care not to say what he has definitely decided.

What of the Likud? The attitude of Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir's party, which favours a withdrawal to an intermediate position, poses a problem for Labour. "We're going to discuss all this with our partners," predicted Mr. Edri, "and we'll try to convince them." And then he added mischievously: "Basically, Syria may be expecting the Likud to hinder our plans and do the work of obstruction in its place."

In Mr. Edri's view, the Israeli government should show its ini-



tiative in another area — relations with Jordan. "There is something new in the air," he says. "Addressing a meeting of the Palestinian National Council recently, King Hussein said things we regard as positive. In particular, he called on the PLO to opt openly for negotiation and pointed out that time was running out for it. Though insufficient, these statements cannot be dismissed. We have to be patient. We can't very well mail a peace plan to (King)

Hussein asking him to agree to it by return post."

Says Mr. Edri: "We must also take the regional changes into account: the restoration of relations between Amman and Cairo, the American-Iraq normalisation, Syria's growing isolation — all these things are favourable to Israel. We keep on asking (King) Hussein to understand us, but we must understand him in return. Let's stop saying there is

nothing to be done. Let's try doing something. We have nothing to lose."

Here again, Labour will have to overcome Likud's misgivings. "Looking for a dialogue with Jordan is quite compatible with the government pact," emphasised Mr. Edri, adding knowingly: "Then, again, our party is on a winning streak. We must take advantage of the power balance." — Le Monde.

## Overnight millionaires?

RECENT REPORTS from the Amman financial market indicate that turnover fell by 60 per cent in 1984 after posting a 10 per cent rise in 1983. The market turnover was JD 59.6 million after JD 140.6 million posted in 1983 as 41.1 million shares were traded, a 35 per cent fall on 1983.

More recently, it was learned that Amman Municipality is evaluating land prices in Amman to control real estate business and improve income for the municipality on that basis.

An analysis of these reports reflects a widespread belief that action should have been taken long ago to curb the phenomenon of "overnight millionaires".

The fortunes that some people have made overnight and the great wealth some people have collected without any hard work or even rendering any useful service to their community pose a capital question mark regarding the means and ways these people have followed for heaping up their fortunes.

Some of these people became millionaires by selling land inherited from their ancestors at incredibly high prices. The boost in land prices during the mid-seventies gave birth to thousands of non-productive millionaires who rendered no service to society other than calling at the Land Department to transfer the ownership of their land to the new owner.

The boost in real estate prices contributed to the creation of a network of middlemen of commission seekers and agents whose only target was to keep the game going. Sometimes these bought the land, parcelled it and then sold it at ten-fold the cost-price to wealth seekers who aspire for an escalation in land prices, hoping that this will secure them a profit rate of, say, 100 per cent.

In the early eighties, a new technique for bargaining came to the scene, and the stock exchange was there to enable money-collectors to enjoy themselves without making any genuine effort except buying shares today and selling them tomorrow at a good profit.

Once again the non-productive financial games started giving birth to tens of millionaires who did not render any useful service to our community.

Against such a background of effortless money-making, it is hard to imagine a trend of productivity-orientation prevailing among ordinary people, and social values tended to glorify those who could make it faster than extend due respect to those who really take part in the genuine build-up of the national economy.

This only means refrain from tilling the land which renders no higher yield than a profit of 10 per cent a year, while dividing such a land and selling it for exchange purposes or housing projects simply gives owners a profit that might possibly reach a proportion of 500 per cent.

Needless to say, lots of people will, in such a climate, find it meaningless to hold a public post if it is not promising enough when one day in the open as a middleman can earn them a whole-year's income.

The boost in land prices and parasitic stock-marketing are but a superficial phenomenon that has nothing to do with genuine economic growth, development of commodity-production, services, cultural progress or advancement. We call upon the concerned authorities, and indeed on all sectors of our society, to learn from past mistakes and concentrate on the real and genuine development of the country.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Collaborators should pay

THE AIRLIFTING of thousands of Jews from Ethiopia to Israel through Sudan continues to cause indignation and controversy in the Arab World. The anger has not quieted down as a result of the Sudanese statement explaining the country's involvement nor the recriminations exchanged by Sudan and Ethiopia over the issue. The most important thing now is the presence of 12,000 more Jews who are now awaiting another airlift to carry them to Israel.

Many Arabs find it necessary for Egypt to interfere immediately and prevent Sudan from carrying out its plans allowing the Jews to pass through its territory on their way to Israel. Egypt is no doubt one of the Arab countries with great influence on Sudan in view of the special relationship between the two countries, and as Sudan forms Egypt's strategic depth. Egypt has been supporting the Sudanese regime, and this support enabled this regime to stay in power. Now it is incumbent on Egypt to exercise pressure on Sudan and stop the passage of Jews from Ethiopia to Israel.

The airlifting of Jews from Ethiopia through Sudan to Israel should be looked on as another defeat for the Arab Nation, and it requires a deep and thorough investigation so that the mistakes can be revealed and similar actions avoided in the future.

### Al Dustour: For defending our homeland

THE JORDANIAN people received the news of concluding a deal with the Soviet Union to buy an air defence system with great delight. They realise that this system is quite necessary for defending the homeland and repelling aggression. No doubt, the deal is in line with the policies of King Hussein, who is keen on raising the standards of the Armed Forces and providing the country with all means of protection.

Following America's refusal to sell Jordan a defence system in view of Zionist pressures, Jordan found it only natural to seek defence weapons from other sources in the East or West. Jordan's request to acquire defensive weapons has received favourable response from all countries which realise that this country adopts a stable and peaceful policy.

The purchase of the air defence system from the Soviet Union proves Jordan's capability to establish good relations with all countries, based on mutual respect. The deal emphasises Jordan's determination to acquire defensive weapons regardless of its meagre resources because it cannot accept aggression and has to defend the homeland. Jordan refused to succumb to pressure and blackmail in its quest to acquire arms and has decided to safeguard its national interests.

The U.S. had gone back on its promises and commitments to sell Jordan Stinger missiles under Zionist pressure in Congress but the Soviet Union, which does not fall under Zionist pressure, has accepted to sell its defensive weapons. We appreciate that a great deal, because we consider the Armed Forces and their weapons the real shield which protects the nation.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Israel manipulates talks

ISRAEL AND Lebanon Monday resume talks at Naqoura on the pullout of Israeli forces from South Lebanon. The past round of negotiations had been deadlocked because of Israel's persistence to employ the renegade Lebanese army which it supports and arms as a tool for defending Israel's interests.

Of course Israel has been hoping to blackmail Lebanon into accepting its terms which aim at enforcing its virtual control over South Lebanon after the pullout. The presence of the Israeli-backed militia in South Lebanon means that Israel will be present there indirectly, and it also means that Israel is seeking new borderlines with Lebanon and a guarantee that no guerrilla attacks will come from that direction against its forces.

Israel has placed obstacles through its agents in Lebanon in the path of deploying the Lebanese Army in the Kharrub region and has thus proved its claims that the Lebanese Army is incapable of providing protection and security to the region. Lebanon has first to deal with these subversive elements before making sure that the Israelis are withdrawn for good.

## Little chance reaching accord on pullout

By Robert Zelnick

TEL AVIV — Shortly before the Israeli-Lebanese talks began at Nakoura on Nov. 7, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy remarked only half jestingly to Israeli colleagues that he expected the agreement to be the quickest ever reached in the area.

At the time, Mr. Murphy's optimism seemed warranted. The Israelis had long since abandoned all political objectives in Lebanon, including the withdrawal of Syrian forces, and were ready to settle instead for an agreement likely to guarantee their northern Galilee communities' security against sustained artillery attack from Leb-

anese soil. Further, the basic vehicle for achieving this result — and expanded territorial role for UNIFIL troops in southern Lebanon — had been agreed to publicly by Beirut and in Mr. Murphy's judgment, tacitly accepted by the Syrians as well. UNIFIL — the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon — was established in the late 1970s to be a buffer between the forces of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel in southern Lebanon.

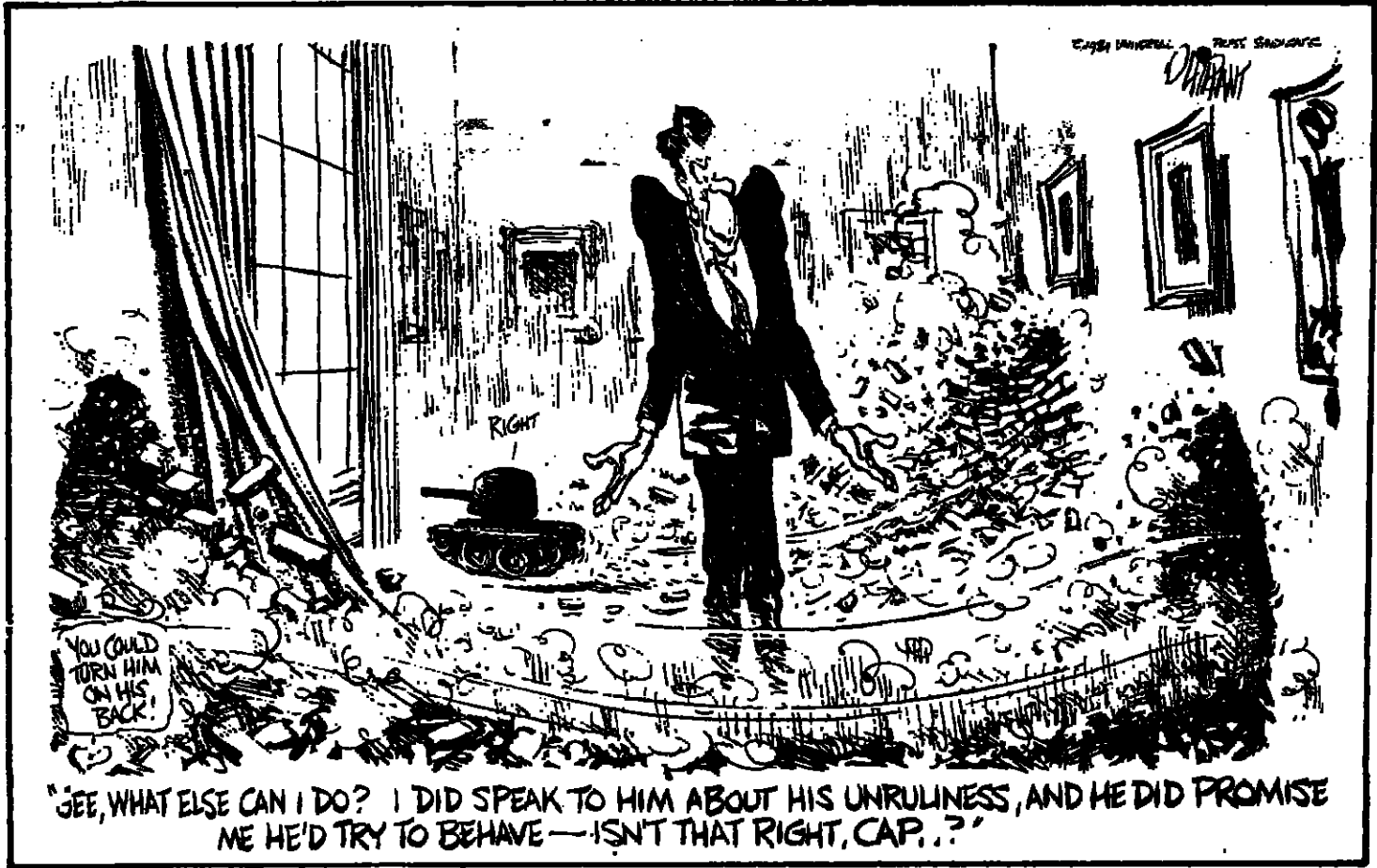
Standing pat at the Awa' merely exacerbates all problems associated with the occupation including the escalating militancy of the area's majority Shi'ite population, a development many kno-

wledgeable Israelis concede is the direct result of their occupation and which may, in the long run, prove far more menacing to Israeli security than was the initial PLO presence. Redeploying is in itself costly and time consuming with no real cause to believe it will substantially lessen the political costs of occupation nor any suggestion that Israel will gain through limited redeployment the bargaining leverage with Damascus it now lacks as the troubled regional occupier.

However, within the Likud, which received and executed operation "peace for Galilee," total withdrawal would be the final

humiliation to a campaign in which humiliation has not been in short supply. To state the matter simply, there is no chance that Likud members of the current Cabinet will support total withdrawal and no chance that Prime Minister Shimon Peres will elect to make Lebanon the issue which shatters his National Unity government.

Politics thus prevents Israel from exercising the "least worst" Lebanon option — total withdrawal. Israel, therefore, returns to Nakoura prepared to do little but add to the string of victories Hafez Assad has won in Lebanon without firing a shot — Christian Science Monitor.



## There is danger in Weinberger's victory

By David S. Broder

LET THERE be no mistake. Secretary of Defence Caspar W. Weinberger is the strong man of the Reagan administration. He has won another battle over David A. Stockman and the other members of President Reagan's senior White House staff, sparing the Pentagon's spending plans, at least for now, from the cutbacks almost all other parts of government will experience in the budget Mr. Reagan sends Congress this month.

There are many members of Congress of both parties — including one Republican whose views, for reasons I will get to, merit special attention — who think Mr. Weinberger's "victory" may eventually rebound against both the armed services and the Republican's best interests.

But the pattern of Mr. Weinberger's success within the administration is so striking and so consistent that it deserves exploration. In each of the last three years, he has faced heavy pressure from some of Mr. Reagan's most influential advisers — including the White House chief of staff, James A. Baker 3d, his deputy, Richard G. Darman, and Mr. Stockman, who heads the Office of Management and Budget — to trim the military buildup in order to reduce the budget deficit.

This year Mr. Baker, Mr. Darman and Mr. Stockman were reinforced in their arguments by all the other members of the cabinet

and by most leading Republican senators and representatives, whose help Mr. Reagan will need to pass a budget in 1985.

For all their argument that spending cuts had to be "across the board," Mr. Weinberger controlled the only vote that counts: the president's. The Pentagon got off with a token cut.

Part of the secret of his influence is surely his long friendship and service with the President. Part of it is Mr. Reagan's own strongly held belief that military power is a good in itself — not one to be measured against other uses of the money.

The Pentagon is "very good at explaining the gee-whiz aspects... telling how this plane will fly upside down, 900 miles-an-hour at night, hit the target and come back, and the pilot won't even know he left. But they're not adept at telling why we ever need to send the pilot or aircraft there to start with."

But part of it is the fact that Mr. Weinberger has embraced, more fully than any of his recent predecessors, the role of spokesman and advocate for the uniformed military services. If Mr. Reagan has wrapped himself in the flag, as critics charged during the last campaign, then Mr. Weinberger has put on the armed services' uniform, figuratively speaking, and dared anyone to try to trim it.

Which brings me to that interesting Republican I mentioned. Representative John McCain of Arizona is the grandson and son of noted navy admirals. An Annapolis graduate, he was en route to

his own flag rank when he was shot down over Hanoi in 1967 and spent six years in a North Vietnamese prison. After his release, Mr. McCain did a tour of duty as the navy's top lobbyist in Capitol Hill, then retired and in 1982 was elected to a House seat from Phoenix.

A prospective candidate to succeed Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona when he retires in 1986, Mr. McCain is as conservative and defence minded as his state — but an intelligent critic of what he sees happening in the Pentagon under Mr. Weinberger's management.

In essence, his argument is that

he said, the Pentagon is "very good at explaining the gee-whiz aspects, the virtues of Stealth, B-1, MX, the Apache helicopter — telling how this plane will fly upside down, 900 miles-an-hour at night, hit the target and come back, and the pilot won't even know he left. But they're not adept at telling why we ever need to send the pilot or aircraft there to start with."

Mr. McCain is worried that under Mr. Weinberger's stewardship, "public support for significant increases in defence has declined from 70 per cent in 1981 to 20 per cent now — without a perceptible change or improvement in Soviet behaviour." Americans, he added, "have lost faith that defence dollars are being spent without 'waste, fraud and abuse.'"

But the horror stories about over-priced spare parts are only the "tip of the iceberg," Mr. McCain said. More serious is the failure to be clear "about the commitments the United States has in the world."

"What my constituents find hard to understand," Mr. McCain said, "is why we still have 250,000 troops in Europe, 40 years after V-E Day, and why we commit six per cent of our GNP, and Japan only one per cent, to a defence programme that guarantees Japan's oil supply lines."

Unless and until Mr. Weinberger answers the questions of the John McCains of Congress, his "victory" must be regarded as shaky — The Washington Post.

## Corruption promoters are hanged in Vietnam

By Jose Katigbak

Reuter

HO CHI MINH CITY — The police chief of Dong Nai province near here was sentenced to death recently for corruption, and local newspapers headlined the case "a common lesson" for all.

In an unusual departure from practice they went into details on how Nguyen Huu Gioi enriched himself in office, including organising clandestine boat trips for refugees for huge fees.

The message was obviously meant as a warning to government officials and cadres following official admissions that cases of corruption have increased both in number and seriousness in recent years.

At the same time, the newspapers published the draft of a penal code expected to be approved soon providing stiffer penalties for those found guilty of corruption.

Under the draft code, "offences like appropriation, theft and other illegal acquisition of socialist property are liable to punishments as severe as life imprisonment, and more serious cases like robberies and embezzlements or intentional destruction of socialist property are punishable with death."

Le Quang Chanh, vice chairman of the governing People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City, told reporters that the most common form of corruption involved government employees or cadres who stole state property for sale on the black market.

He said corruption was minimal. But shopkeepers and street vendors disagreed and claimed it was a way of life.

In a country where the price of a good meal out is more than the average monthly salary of most employees, the few restaurants and cafes do good business.

"Almost everyone has to have some kind of a racket here to survive," said an unemployed ex-officer as he sat in a restaurant sipping imported whisky.

Le Thanh Van, the city's director of public security, in a recent article said a major problem that had to be checked was illegal dealing in gold and dollars.

In Vietnam, gold is the ultimate

form of insurance which people use to buy their way out of trouble — or out of the country. Dollars are for business dealings in smuggled items.

Shopkeepers said smuggled goods were paid for in dollars because gold was more expensive locally.

A tael of gold costs 125,000 dong (about \$445) at the black market rate of exchange or over \$10,000 at the official rate. A tael weighs 37.5 grams, slightly heavier than an ounce of gold which costs about \$314 in the international market.

Shopkeepers said they preferred to have gold because it was less dangerous. It is also the only acceptable currency used by many to buy their escape from the country.

They said people were allowed to own 30 per cent of a tael of gold in the form of jewellery. Anything in excess was liable to confiscation.

"If the police find you have more gold than allowed you can always say you inherited it. Normally they just pocket the gold and the case ends there," one former boat refugee said.

He said it was more dangerous to be caught with dollars. "This is considered a political crime since an ordinary citizen would not have access to dollars unless he had foreign dealings," he added.

Because of the danger of having dollars, people try to get rid of the currency as soon as possible by buying smuggled goods which come through Kampuchea or on merchant ships. The black market rate of the dollar is about 280 dong compared with 160 dong a year ago. The official rate remains at 11.50 dong.

A problem for gold and dollar hoarders is informers, who received 10 per cent of what was confiscated, shopkeepers said.

The danger of arrest for unexplained wealth also forces many to spend their profits as fast as prudently possible.

"My motto is to live for the present because in the Vietnam of today there are no tomorrows for people like us," said an unemployed ex-officer of the former South Vietnamese army.

## LETTERS

### Spare people's lives

To the Editor:

I READ with great interest Monday's letter to the editor Jordan Times, Jan. 7 and I share Mrs. Fahy's feeling of concern over reckless drivers who are appointed to the task of transporting school children. But my concern does not end there. I have to drive daily on the Amman — Zarka highway in order to get to and from work, and unless you have seen some of the drivers along that highway, then as the new saying goes: "You ain't seen nothing yet."

The worst culprits I have encountered have been service taxi and army trucks drivers.

The army trucks, better known to me as "environment pollutants" or black smoke generators, bounce up and down, sway from one side to the other, driving at speeds of no less than 90-100 kilometres, blowing their horns to make sure everyone gets out of the way. I sometimes think that a miserable looking conscript going home for the weekend will be ejected from the back of these trucks.

Amman-Russeifa-Zarka service taxi drivers are strange encounters of the fourth kind. Barely awake, there they go in the early hours of the morning with seven passengers aboard, thinking they are the Landas and Watsons of Jordan, driving at speeds exceeding 100 kilometres per hour, racing anything that comes their way. They overtake on the left, right and I guess they would like to try overtaking from above too, totally ignoring the presence of human beings who are on their way to work, whose children are probably on the buses Mrs. Fahy mentioned in her letter. So both parents and children can go home after a hard long day and reveal the secrets of the dare devils.

Ya'ish Awwad, Amman.

لبنان من اجل



# American fundamentalism in theory and practice

## Back to the 'good guys - bad guys' anachronism

By Alan Dehmer

### The road to Armageddon

Christian fundamentalism as we know it today is relatively young; most church historians point to the 1870s as the beginning of an organized "fundamentalist" movement. Mainline Protestant theologians and biblical scholars at that time were carrying biblical criticism into new areas of research. Aided by archaeological discoveries of new and variant texts of the Bible, scholars in Europe and the United States applied new methods while accepting new criteria for interpreting the Bible. Historical, philosophical and linguistic analyses were just some of the methods being applied, some for the first time, to biblical studies. In reaction to these new approaches and new meanings being derived, certain ministers from the mainline Protestant denominations (mostly from the Baptist and Presbyterian churches), initiated their own Bible study classes, applying literalist interpretations to Scripture.

What characterized American fundamentalists at the close of the 19th century, like their Puritan predecessors at Plymouth, was a profound belief in the corrupt condition of humanity. Christian fundamentalists held "sacrosanct" the conviction that until one has accepted Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior, one cannot be "saved" from the snares and ways of the Evil One. Considering the small number of born-again Christians (an estimated 70 million worldwide), it follows that fundamentalists perceive a general state of corruption in the world. As with all dualistic world views — "made up of 'good guys' and 'bad guys'," good and evil — fundamentalism necessarily condemns the "other." "Good News" thus becomes predicated on damnation. The tension inherent in this notion is evident.

Furthermore, the overriding conviction of the imminence of the "end times," which fundamentalists believe will usher in the New Covenant, gives a sense of urgency to much televangelist preaching. This combination of urgency and tension, born of the dualistic contradictions mentioned above, frequently develops into a sort of militancy. Mike Evans, in his TV special, "Israel: America's Key to Survival," unwittingly refers to the resulting paradoxes as militant compassion.

The truth of the matter is, seven of the twenty-one Arab states are Soviet, and they've averaged one revolution per year for over thirty years. And that forty-five heads or former heads of state have lost their heads because they've run their governments off the bullet rather than the ballot. And God knows we want to see His blessing to be poured out upon the entire Middle East. We as evangelicals are committed to a Gospel of love and the only militant dimension to our message is compassion. We want God to bless those Arab nations. But those Arab countries cannot be blessed. Nor can our nation be blessed as long as we stick our finger in the eye of God and in the eye of His prophetic Word.

In fact, the desire for God's blessings on the Arab nations runs counter to the scenario they accept as predetermined in the Bible. Basing their prediction of doom on a series of selected passages throughout the Bible, fundamentalists believe the forces of evil will attempt to invade and conquer Israel thereby igniting the "final battle" at Armageddon. Before this apocalyptic climax though, they, the "blessed," will be lifted into heavenly glory and thus be saved the terror of war (Ap 20:4). The chief agent of the final battle is Satan, whose false prophet, otherwise known as the anti-Christ, will lead an army against the holy ones of Israel. The "army" charged with this satanic mission, according to popular fundamentalist theory of the past 60 years, has fluctuated from the Zionists to the Bolsheviks to the Catholics. At present, the Soviet Union is unanimously considered the "bad guy." First and foremost among the confederation of satanically inspired puppets are the Arab states.

On June 9, 1982, three days after Israel began its invasion of Lebanon, Pat Robertson took time on his "700 Club" programme to explain the "final battle" to his followers. Describing battle strategies and the countries involved with the assurance and calm of one who will be spared. Armageddon, Mr. Robertson began by repeating a prediction he had made in January 1982.

I guarantee you by the fall of

1982, that there is going to be a judgment on the world, and the ultimate judgment is going to come on the Soviet Union. They are going to be the ones to make military adventures, and they are going to be hit...

In front of the cameras, Mr. Robertson went over to his blackboard. Pointing to a map of the Mideast, he recalled the prophecy spoken of in Ezekiel.

In the latter days when Israel is regathered from the nations, I'm going to cause something to happen. Here is what is going to happen. I'm going to put hooks in the jaws of the confederation that is going to be led by someone named Gog (the Soviet Union) in the land of Maygog. And the people that will be with it are: Beth Togama (Armenia), Put (Libya), Rush (Ethiopia), Gomer

The "army" charged with this satanic mission, according to popular fundamentalist theory of the past 60 years, has fluctuated from the Zionists to the Bolsheviks to the Catholics. At present, the Soviet Union is unanimously considered the "bad guy." First and foremost among the confederation of satanically inspired puppets are the Arab states.

(South Yemen), and Persia (Iran).

Mr. Robertson speculated further on the Mideast crisis and the role of the United States.

This whole thing is now in place; it can begin to happen any time... But by fall undoubtedly something like this will happen which will fulfill Ezekiel. It is ready to happen... The United States is in that Ezekiel passage, and it is as if we are standing by to say, as we did in the United Nations yesterday (referring to the U.S. veto of a Security Council resolution condemning the Israeli invasion), "No you can't do that!"

Robertson concluded his prediction of impending doom with reference to the inevitability of the final battle.

Israel in this action has lit the fuse, and it is a fast burning fuse, and I don't think that the fuse is going to be quenched until that region explodes in flames. That is my personal feeling from the Bible.

Many Christians, including most of the 40 million or more U.S. evangelical Christians, consider the projection of contemporary events onto the prophetic words of the Bible pure speculation, if not charlatanism. All Christians look on the Hebrew prophets as the bearers of truth, the messengers of God. They understand the prophetic word as the call to justice — warning to a people gone astray from God. Evangelical Christians share this understanding, but they differ in that they see it as their Christian duty to speak out against injustice anywhere injustice exists. By doing so, they partake in the same prophetic tradition they find in the Bible.

Fundamentalist evangelicals, on the other hand, believe scriptural words are formulas that accurately describe the world and events both in biblical times and today. Driven by the need to identify current events as signs that fulfill ancient biblical predictions, their attention is not drawn to contemporary injustices.

To find these signs, of course, is not always easy, for the world is not the same as it was 2,500 years ago. The historical inconsistencies, combined with the psychological and theological paradoxes fundamentalists live by, create a real problem. To rectify the situation, fundamentalists often fall prey to "prophetic maneuvering," as evangelical Christian Joseph Bayly puts it. In other words, fundamentalists frequently attempt to tailor history to fit what they perceive is God's design — a sort of determinism in reverse. The implication is that God needs help, or turning the formula around, that the follies of humanity can pervert God's plans from being realized.

Mr. Bayly sees this as preposterous. He chose to speak up against an ad that was placed in newspapers across the country on Nov. 1, 1977. The ad, entitled "Evangelicals' Concern for Israel," and signed by fifteen prominent fundamentalist leaders,

voiced apprehension over the "recent direction" of U.S. Middle East policy. The ad called on U.S. policy makers to adopt a more "Biblical" stance in the Middle East, and declared the "right" of the Jewish people to all the land given them by God, including the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights. Mr. Falwell has since claimed, after concurring with Begin, that, in fact,

...Genesis 15 indicates the boundaries of Israel will stretch from the River Euphrates, on the east, west to the Nile River. The promised land would encompass portions of present day Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Sudan and all of Lebanon, Jordan, and Kuwait.

The ad also recommends that evangelical Christians "affirm their belief in Biblical prophecy and Israel's divine right to the land by speaking out now." It suggested praying and writing to Congress as two means to further God's plan.

As late as 1977, when the ad was printed, the idea of writing to Congress would still have been viewed by most fundamentalists as a radical departure from the apolitical stance that was considered more properly Christian. But by the summer of 1982, such Christian activism had become common fare for televangelists, resulting in a powerful new voice speaking out in America. Pat Robertson, for example, while superimposing the telephone number of the White House on the screen, on numerous occasions wheedled his "700 Club" audience to write or call President Reagan, and encourage him to continue his support for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

A campaign to turn the country around

Throughout the summer and fall of 1980, televangelists took every opportunity to encourage their audience to register and vote. James Robison offered his viewers "VOTE" pins with the "T" in the shape of a crucifix. Pat Robertson announced "we are going to take over the country." The boasting continued through election day.

The results of that election, with the defeat in Congress of long-time liberal leaders like George McGovern, Frank Church, Birch Bayh and others, exhibited for the first time the real political power televangelists are capable of wielding. In short, the ability to impasse TV audiences with religious justification for otherwise political realities has become a trademark of this new breed of fundamentalist preachers.

Only a few years ago, fundamentalists would have balked at the suggestion of voting or writing to Congress or at any other kind of involvement in the political arena. Before the 1970s, fundamentalists in general chose apoliticism and inner experience over political activism. As a Tennessee mountain preacher once put it, "This world

"I guarantee you by the fall of 1982, that there is going to be some judgment on the world, and the ultimate judgment is going to come on the Soviet Union."

— Pat Robertson

is no place for a Christian. I'm packing my bags for the other side of the shore."

The cumulative effect of social changes of concern to fundamentalists — the Supreme Court decision permitting abortion in 1973, the growth of the pornography business in the late 1960s, the federal government's attempts to interfere with Christian schools — prompted their leaders to speak out on what they perceived to be a dangerous trend towards immorality in America.

Over the past decade, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, Jim Bakker, James Robison and other televangelists have been in the forefront of the politicization process, urging their audiences to "get involved." As Pat Robertson noted in 1979,

We ought to be governing ourselves. We represent the vast majority of the people. If you put the Catholics and the evangelicals together, it is a clear majority. It's the silent majority.

In 1980, one year after Robertson made that claim, televangelists had their first opportunity to test their own influence and the power of their audiences.

The first major effort was to encourage a massive registration drive for the 1980 elections. At the same time, televangelists were pursuing closer ties with political leaders. Thus, in July 1980, Jerry Falwell gained access to the leaders of the Republican National

Convention. The following month, on August 21 and 22, members of the Evangelical Right joined with representatives of the New Right in Dallas to voice their concerns to the nation at the National Affairs Briefing.

The briefing was sponsored by the Roundtable, a conservative Christian political forum which subsequently sponsored a prayer breakfast in support of Israel early

Driven by the need to identify current events as signs that fulfill ancient biblical predictions, their attention is not drawn to contemporary injustices.

in 1983 in Washington, D.C. The Dallas gathering gained the attention of the press primarily because of its list of notable speakers, which included presidential candidate Ronald Reagan. Also present were Senators Jesse Helms (R-NC) and William Armstrong (R-CO), Representatives Philip Crane (R-IL) and Guy Vander Jagt (R-MI), U.S. military leaders Maj. Gen. George Keegan and Brigadier General Albion Knight, and televangelists Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and James Robison.

The briefing served to confirm the hopes of some and the fears of



Pat Robertson, looking out from his satellite kingdom: "It is only a matter of time before the three big networks go down."

| Programme Title                  | Televangelist  | Viewers   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| "Weekly Crusade"                 | Jimmy Swaggart | 1,986,000 |
| "Old Time Gospel Hour"           | Jerry Falwell  | 1,455,720 |
| "PTL Club"                       | Jim Bakker     | 668,170   |
| "In the Word With James Robison" | James Robison  | 464,800   |
| "700 Club"                       | Pat Robertson  | 380,460   |

others. Not only did the New Right include members of Congress and the U.S. military, but also the newest and possibly most important element in conservative American politics: the Evangelical Right. Howard Phillips of the Conservative Caucus agrees. He has called the movement of the Christian Right into politics "the most significant development in American politics since organized labour discovered the ballot box."

One of the most effective techniques used by televangelists to engender new and continued support is to exaggerate their audience size. Some televangelists, for example, have been known to ascertain the number of their viewers by multiplying the number of letters received in a week by some randomly selected number. Don Hull, for instance, the former head of James Robison's audience response division, admits to having estimated three million viewers for Robison's show based on the 1,000 letters received weekly. Hull assumed approximately 3,000 actual viewers for every letter received; hence the estimate of three million.

Prefacing his estimates with the expression "ministerially speaking," Jerry Falwell often claims over 25 million viewers tune into his "Old Time Gospel Hour," though at the 1980 Republican National Convention, that estimate rose to 50 million. Mr. Falwell's estimates and the exaggerated estimates of the other televangelists are not challenged by the general public and are repeated by the press, thus proving the most basic rule of propaganda: if something is repeated often enough, it becomes accepted as truth.

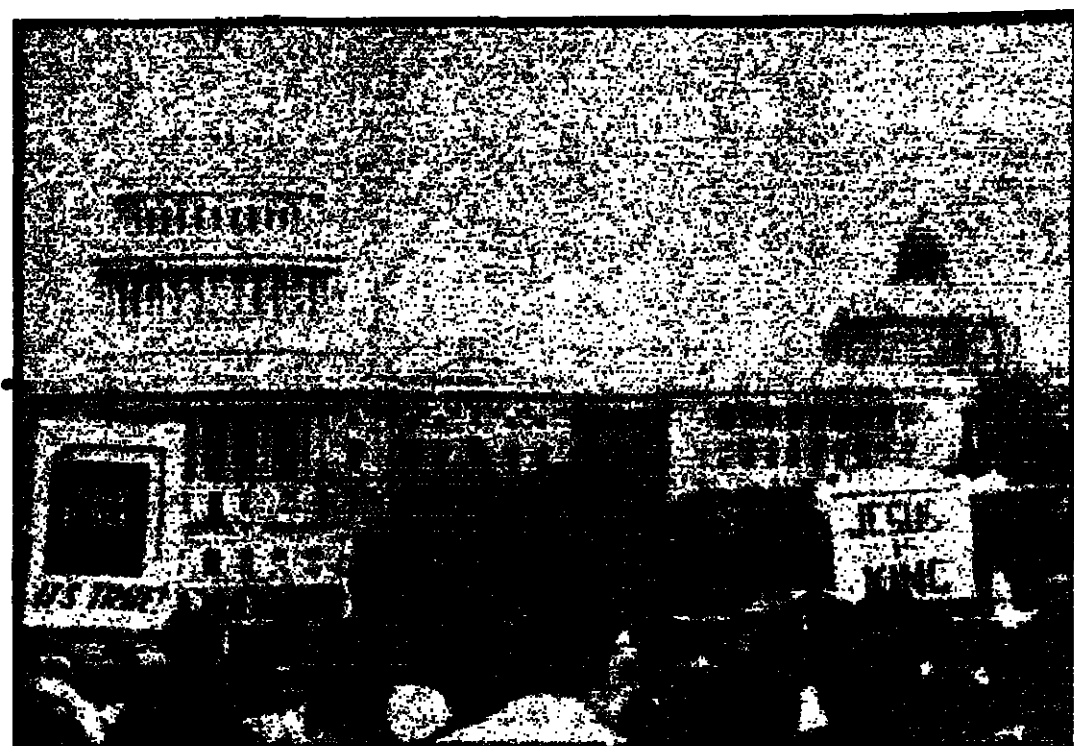
What is the actual strength of the Evangelical Right? Are they, as Jeremy Rifkin, author of "The Emerging Order" suggests, "amassing a base of potential power that dwarfs every other competing interest in American society today"? Two sources of information are useful in assessing this question. The first is the Arbitron Company, which, like its counterpart the Nielsen Com-

pany, estimates television audience sizes for the benefit of advertisers and programmers. The second source is the U.S. Census Bureau's voting statistics figures for the 1980 elections.

At the height of the 1980 campaign, sociologist Jeffrey Hadden and religious communications expert Charles E. Swann agreed to look into Mr. Falwell's claim of 25 to 50 million viewers as well as the other millions of viewers claimed to be tuning into the other televangelists' programmes. They announced their findings in "Prime Time Preachers: The Rising Power of Televangelism."

The research on audience sizes showed that in fact the numbers being offered by televangelists were highly exaggerated. Arbitron ratings were reviewed by Hadden and Swann and some interesting facts came to light. It was discovered, for example, that the claim of 50 million viewers by Mr. Falwell was nothing more than hype, as was his earlier claim of 25 million. Arbitron suggested an audience size closer to 1 1/2 million — quite a significant difference!

Hadden and Swann found exaggeration with all the televangelists. In fact, of the 66 religious programmes aired around the country in February 1980, there were only about 20 million viewers per week watching all 66 programmes. And these 66 pro-



Fundamentalists represent the religious arm of the New Right

to cancel the special.

During the three months that "Israel: America's Key to Survival" was being aired, ADC conducted a campaign to protest its broadcast on local television stations throughout the country. Partly because some television executives considered the programme too propagandistic and partly because local ADC members vigorously protested, many scheduled broadcasts were cancelled. In July alone, 10 of the 30 stations that had scheduled the special chose later to cancel it.

Evans responded to the ADC campaign with a familiar fundamentalist diatribe.

Haters of Israel and America (PLO, pro-Soviet sympathisers, etc.) are organising to block stations from airing our special... We cannot give these individuals time to organise. Petro influence is extremely great in our nation. Several weeks later, in late August, he issued the first of his "Middle East News Alert" newsletters with the headline "PLO attacks special."

The PLO sympathisers and Arab lobbyists have taken bold steps to effectively remove the Prime Time Special "Israel: America's Key to Survival" from the air.

Many stations have been threatened with legal action, while others have received notice demanding equal time from these groups.

The impact has caused the ministry to suffer many setbacks. In many cases, the programme was cancelled after contracts were signed, checks issued, and advertising dollars spent.

Although illegal, out of fear, these stations have refused to air the programme.

Evangelist Mike Evans has stated that he will not bow to the pressure, nor give these haters of America and Israel months to organise.

In response to their threats, he is immediately signing contracts to increase the airing to an additional 64 million potential households, in spite of the fact that he does not have the finances.

By October, still determined to air his special but frustrated by continued cancellations, Mr. Evans formulated a new plan, this time reducing the 60-minute special to two minutes and buying time on stations throughout the country for the new trimmed-down model.

### Voter strength

Although televangelists have consistently over-estimated their audience size and their broadcast successes, it seems their estimates of voter strength have been more realistic.

Hadden and Swann found that nearly 75 per cent of televangelist viewers are 50 years of age and older. This age group represents the most active voting bloc in the country: 75 per cent or more of those 50 years or older are registered to vote and approximately 70 per cent of those registered actually voted in the 1980 elections. Taken together, Hadden and Swann's findings, Census Bureau figures, and a base estimate of 10 to 14 million television viewers, suggest the possibility that up to 10 per cent of those who voted in the 1980 elections were regular viewers of televangelist programming.

An exact composite of all these separate findings cannot be considered statistically accurate. No figures are available on how fundamentalists over 50 compare with other citizens over 50 in terms of voting behaviour. It is likely that fundamentalists were less apt than the average citizen to have voted before the 1980 election. But in light of the effect televangelists have on their listeners and the extensive voting drive that took place on their programmes, ADC's analysis of voting and audience figures points to real and growing fundamentalist voter strength.

When Hadden and Swann examined the geographic makeup of televangelist audiences, they found that fundamentalism is a Southern phenomenon, contrary to televangelist claims that they were reaching the entire nation. In fact, approximately half of the televangelists' audiences live in the South. Voter participation in 1980 in the south (which makes up

one-third of the U.S. population) tended to be slightly lower in the rest of the nation by one to four percentage points.

Demographic studies further suggest that areas outside the South where televangelist popularity is widespread can be explained in terms of the migration pattern of Southerners. The East, West, and Midwestern states divide the remaining audience, with New England the only area of the country nearly impregnable to televangelist broadcasters.

To summarise, fundamentalists do represent a major new voting force within the United States. Though the actual audience size of televangelist programmes is not large in comparison with popular prime-time programmes and although the actual number of Christian fundamentalists in the United States has not risen appreciably in the past decade, the actual political strength this minority group claims has risen significantly in that same period. Put another way, the fact that less than 5 per cent of the total population of the United States can legitimately claim upwards of 10 per cent of the voting population has serious implications.

— President Ronald Reagan

You know, I turn back to for ancient prophets in the Old Testament and the signs foretelling Armageddon, and I find myself wondering if we're the generation that is going to see that come about."

It has been suggested here that the fundamentalists' increasing political influence lies squarely with television evangelists. But the power televangelists have managed to rally in a few years does not stem from an increase in the number of believers they claim to represent. Rather, because televangelists can articulate a common base of values and, moreover, have encouraged those believers to become politically active, they have succeeded in forming a unified and highly organised political interest group.

At the same time, televangelists have succeeded in convincing many Americans that their ideas represent a majority American opinion. This is done not by a conversion of ideas but through the illusion of overwhelming strength. As Ben Bagdikian remarked, "Media power is political power." The threat posed by the televangelists is serious, but it can be countered. The Fairness Doctrine provides an opportunity for telling the other side of a controversial issue. There is a genuine willingness on the part of most TV stations approached about the matter to balance the televangelists' political opinions with alternative programmes. If a televangelist offends seriously or persistently a station can sometimes even be persuaded to drop a show. The Mike Evans special, "Israel: America's Key to Survival," was cancelled in many locations after station managers were alerted to its blatantly propagandistic character by ADC representatives around the country.

Other groups besides Arab-Americans have had notable successes in challenging televangelist vilification. In November of 1983 two Atlanta stations, WANN and WAGA cancelled Jimmy Swaggart's daily syndicated programme, "Study in the Word" after receiving numerous complaints from viewers. One of the complaints was the Reverend Noel Burdettshaw, communications director for the Catholic archdiocese of Atlanta, who took offence at Swaggart brooding such as "Priests are just leading people to hell." A third station, WTBS, has since agreed to air the Swaggart programmes (at 5:30 a.m.) but only after warning Mr. Swaggart both in person and in writing that "if there's anything untoward, he'll be pulled from the air."

The message in all this is clear. Station managers are willing to listen to complainants, they will frequently agree with their complaints (at least as they concern televangelists) and finally, they are willing to take action when they are reminded of their responsibility to fairness by their viewing public — ADC issues.

The warning of apocalyptic doom heard from fundamentalists today is the same message that was proclaimed by their forebears at the close of the last century, by the Puritans of the 17th century, the Millenialists at the end of the 10th century, the Essenes of the 1st



## E.Germans take swimming honours

FAYETTEVILLE, Arkansas (AP) — Astrid Strauss of East Germany picked up her fourth first-place finish in as many days as she captured the women's 400 metres freestyle Sunday in the final day of the 1985 U.S. swimming international meet at the University of Arkansas.

Strauss, a 16-year-old ranked second in the world in the 400 freestyle a year ago, won the 1,500, 200, and 800 metre freestyle events before Sunday's competition. Posting a time of 4:05.58, Strauss

joined teammate Sven Lodziewski as the only two swimmers to win four events in the history of the meet, which dates to 1980 in its present format.

Strauss knocked eight seconds off her preliminary time in the event and registered the first of what was expected to be several East German victories on the final night of competition.

East Germany's Cornelia Sirch, who holds the current world's best in the women's 200 metre backstroke, won that event.

## Swedes invade Masters tennis

NEW YORK (R) — Davis Cup heroes Mats Wilander and Henrik Sundstrom lead a record four-pronged Swedish assault on the Grand Prix Masters Tennis Championship starting at Madison Square Garden Tuesday.

Only two Swedes — Wilander and Bjorn Borg — have previously played in the 12-man tournament, and never both in the same year.

With the United States represented by a further six of the 12 qualifiers, the event will rekindle the 1984 rivalry between the two countries which climaxed in Sweden's 4-1 victory in last month's Davis Cup final.

But the draw does not favour the Europeans' chances. Wilander, Sundstrom and Anders Jarryd are all in the top half, with the last two due to play the opening match for the right to meet John McEnroe on Thursday.

All four top seeds, McEnroe, fellow American Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Wilander gained first round byes and enter the fray at the quarter-final stage.

Wilander will meet an American, either Aaron Krickstein, at 18 the youngest player ever to appear in the Masters, or Johan Kriek, who play the second match Tuesday.

In the other half of the draw, the

fourth Swede, Joakim Nystrom, plays American Vitas Gerulaitis while Czechoslovak Tomas Smid takes on Eliot Teltscher, also of the United States, on Wednesday.

The winners will meet Lendl and Connors respectively in the other two quarter-final ties on Friday.

The six-day event offers \$400,000 in prize money with \$100,000 going to the winner.

By virtue of finishing first in the Grand Prix points race last year, McEnroe has already won a \$600,000 bonus, while the second-placed Connors collected \$400,000.

McEnroe, the Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion, seems to have regained top form for his Masters title defence.

The New Yorker enjoyed his best year ever in 1984, winning 12 of his 14 tournaments, and losing only three matches in 82.

But after a seven-week layoff through suspension and injury, he

put on a rusty display in the Davis Cup final, losing his opening singles to Sundstrom and the doubles with Peter Fleming to Jarryd and Stefan Edberg.

Last week, he bounced back in the eight-man Challenge of Champions in Las Vegas, beating Connors in the semifinal and Argentine Guillermo Vilas in the final.

McEnroe could add a further \$17,000 to his pay cheque by winning the doubles championship with Fleming for the fourth year in succession.

If the singles seedings are justified, McEnroe will meet Wilander, the Australian Open champion, and Connors will face French Open Champion Lendl in the semifinal on Saturday.

## Britain's McLeod to get belated Olympic medal

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — Mike McLeod of Britain, who finished third behind disqualified runner-up Martti Vainio of Finland in the Olympic 10,000 metres in Los Angeles, is to be presented with a belated silver medal at the World Indoor Games in Paris later this month.

McLeod will receive his medal from the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Juan Antonio Samaranch, at a special ceremony at the games on January 19.

McLeod was moved up to second place after Vainio was disqualified following a positive dope test. But Vainio has so far declined to return his medal.

Jose Sotelo, press attache for Samaranch, told Reuters Monday: "Whether Vainio returns his medal by then or not, I can tell you that President Samaranch will himself present Mike McLeod with a silver medal at the World Indoor Games."

## Former Portuguese soccer star dies

LISBON (R) — Former Portuguese soccer international Jose Maria Pedroto died Monday after a long illness, his family said. He was 56.

Pedroto was capped 17 times in the 1950s.

He was also a trainer and led his former club FC Porto to two consecutive league titles in 1978 and 1979.

## San Francisco 49ers, Miami Dolphins to meet in Super Bowl

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — A strong defence carried the San Francisco 49ers to a 23-0 win over the Chicago Bears and the National Football Conference (NFC) title Sunday.

The 49ers will meet the Miami Dolphins in the Super Bowl on January 20 at Palo Alto, California.

San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana passed for 233 yards, completing 18 of 34 attempts with one touchdown and two interceptions.

The Chicago defence held Montana's high-powered attack to two field goals by Ray Wersching in the first half, from 21 yards in the first quarter and 22 yards in the second.

Wendell Tyler's nine yard touchdown run early in the third quarter gave San Francisco a 13-0 lead.

In the fourth period Montana passed 10 yards to Freddie Solomon for a touchdown, and Wersching's 34-yard field goal completed the scoring.

In Miami's game quarterback Dan Marino passed for 421 yards for an AFC (American Football Conference) playoff record as the Miami Dolphins routed the Pittsburgh Steelers 45-28 to win the AFC championship.

Marino passed for four touchdowns and was intercepted once moved into the Super Bowl.

Pittsburgh quarterback Mark Malone threw for three touchdowns, two to John Stallworth. The Steelers took an early 14-10 lead, but Marino drove for two scores before the half ended and Miami led 24-14.

Miami increased their lead in the third period by scoring two touchdowns to one, the first coming a minute and 48 seconds after play restarted when Marino threw 36 yards to Mark Duper.

Malone came back with his second score to Stallworth, but Miami marched 85 yards in nine plays with Woody Bennett plunging over from the one for a commanding lead.

## Becker claims Young Masters title

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — Before Sunday Boris Becker had not won a set from Stefan Edberg in four matches, but Sunday he won three out of five to become the first Young Masters Tennis Champion.

In a match which may well have been a preview of future Wimbledon finals, the 17-year-old West German showed great shot-making and a remarkable maturity to outlast his 18-year-old Swedish Davis Cup rival 4-6, 6-3, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3.

"This was a good way to start 1985 and now I am looking forward to a very good year," the big blond West German said as he struggled to open a bottle of champagne.

Victory and its £15,000 (\$17,250) prize were richly deserved by the 11th-seeded West German youngster, who came through to win this prestigious new event after more experienced players like Mats Wilander and Pat Cash failed.

### TENDER

The Water Authority hereby notifies the firms bidding for Contract No. 6A of Zarqa-Ruseifa Water Supply and Sewerage Project as follows:-

1. Date for foreign firms to submit their technical and financial information supporting their qualification. Jan. 27, 1985.
2. Prebid conference will be at the Water Authority main office at 9 o'clock, 22-1-1985.
3. Latest bid submittal date Feb. 9th, 1985 at 12 noon.
4. Bidders are advised to contact the Water Authority or the engineer to collect addendum No. 1.

TODAY....

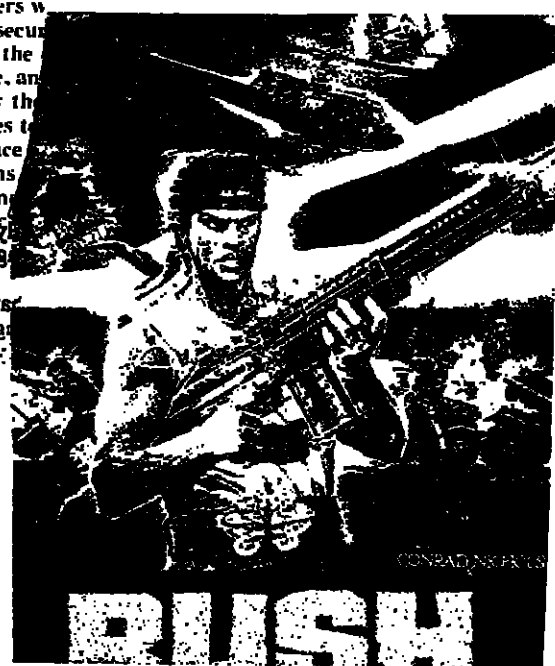
TODAY

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فكرنا





# Kampuchean rebels beat back Vietnamese attack on Ampil base

**BAN SA-NGAE, Thailand (R)**—Kampuchean guerrillas beat back a major Vietnamese assault on their headquarters Monday after three hours of heavy fighting during which they knocked out three tanks, a Thai military commander said.

Maj. Gen. Salya Sripen said the Vietnamese laid down a fierce artillery barrage before infantry spearheaded by tanks launched a two-pronged attack on the Khmer Peoples National Liberation Front (KNPLF) sprawling Ampil Base.

The general, speaking to reporters by an anti-tank ditch on the Thai-Kampuchean border overlooking Ampil, said the headquarters area was hard hit by the shelling.

The Vietnamese briefly breached the eastern defence line, three kilometres from the command centre, but the guerrillas regrouped quickly and plugged the gap, he said.

Thai intelligence said the guerrillas knocked out three Soviet-made T-54 tanks with land mines or rocket-propelled grenades.

One guerrilla, blood pouring from head and shoulder wounds, told Red Cross workers as he was bundled off for treatment that he had been caught by tank machinegun fire. Fighting in some sectors was at very close quarters, he added.

Guerrilla leaders said before the attack that Ampil faced a Vietnamese frontline regiment of more than 2,000 men, backed by three regiments, each about 1,200 men strong, from Hanoi's 5th Division.

They said about 800 pro-Hanoi Kampuchean soldiers were also with the Vietnamese but one guerrilla dismissed them as "battle hors d'oeuvres".

KNPLF leaders estimated about 15 Vietnamese tanks went into action in the assault. They had

said earlier about 3,000 guerrillas defended Ampil.

Gen. Salya said the guerrillas were in full control of Ampil. "Their defences were holding after three hours of continuous fighting. The action tapered off into sporadic but regular small arms fire," he said.

Thai officers said the Vietnamese might be regrouping for another assault.

Unofficial estimates put the number of guerrillas wounded at about 20. Vietnamese losses were not known.

Gen. Salya said about 20 shells from the Vietnamese barrage hit Thai territory, wounding four Thai soldiers.

Ampil is the only major KNPLF camp still intact after the Vietnamese began a dry season offensive in November against guerrilla bases along Kampuchea's western border.

The camp has at least two defence lines in a radius about four kilometres from its now-evacuated civilian areas, which mainly consist of bamboo huts. The perimeter is heavily mined.

The attack came on sixth anniversary of Hanoi's installation of the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh after its forces invaded Kampuchea and ousted the Khmer Rouge.

The KNPLF are partners with the Khmer Rouge and followers of Prince Norodom Sihanouk in a guerrilla coalition recognised by the United Nations as Kampuchea's government.

Thai tanks and soldiers were in position along an anti-tank ditch separating Ampil from Ban Sa-Ngae with orders to repel the Vietnamese if they crossed.

A Thai army spokesman in Bangkok said Thai troops were battling more than 120 Vietnamese soldiers who crossed into north east Thailand in pursuit of Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

He told reporters two Vietnamese companies, which numbered about 60-70 men each, intruded about three kilometres into Namyuen district, Ubon Ratchathani province, Sunday and Thai forces were still trying to repulse them.

## Nuclear blasts increased in 1984

**STOCKHOLM (R)**—The Soviet Union and the United States both carried out more military nuclear tests last year than in 1983, although the Soviet total including peaceful explosions was unchanged, Swedish experts said Monday.

A spokesman for the internationally-respected Hagfors Observatory, run by a branch of Sweden's Defence Ministry, said preliminary figures showed that

had been 53 underground nuclear tests last year, including 16 U.S. and 27 Soviet explosions.

China carried out two tests, one more than in 1983 while the number of French and British tests was unchanged at seven and one respectively, he said.

The U.S. total was four higher than in 1983.

The spokesman said 17 underground nuclear explosions had

been recorded at the Semipalatinsk and Novaya Zemlya sites used by the Soviet Union for military tests against 14 in 1983.

In addition, he said, Moscow staged 10 nuclear explosions presumed to have been connected with civil engineering projects—two in Siberia, three in the Urals and five north of the Caspian Sea.

The total number of nuclear tests in 1983 was 48.

## Kennedy meets Botha

**PRETORIA, South Africa (AP)**—American Senator Edward Kennedy met Monday morning for 90 minutes with Foreign Minister R.F. Botha, who said later that he defended white-ruled South Africa's policies, although Kennedy and Botha found nothing upon which they could agree.

It would be naive ever to expect me and Senator Kennedy to reach common ground. He cannot even reach common ground with the Republicans in the United States, and the Republicans are to the left of us," Mr. Botha told reporters.

Sen. Kennedy, who arrived Saturday on a fact-finding mission, did not talk to reporters after meeting Mr. Botha in a government guest house in suburban Pretoria.

He departed with his entourage for an impoverished black village where inhabitants are scheduled to be forcibly moved under South Africa's policy of dividing the country into "white," "black" and "brown" areas according to the colour of one's skin.

I told him in so many words that we do not agree, and he sees things differently from us, and that's it," said Mr. Botha.

## Gandhi sees strong Indo-Soviet ties

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said he sees a "strong relationship" between India and the Soviet Union, but stressed that his country wants to improve ties with the United States "in every sphere."

In an interview with the Time magazine, Mr. Gandhi also said he wants to "finish off" years of confrontation with Pakistan because India is "in no mood for an arms race" with the rival neighbour.

The prime minister, 40, also said his new government plans to relax control over foreign companies and India's private sector in an effort to expand the country's economy.

He described his Congress Party's landslide election victory last month as "a mandate for change, for clean up of the system, for the interview which was held last Thursday and reported Monday

by the United News of India news agency.

"I see a strong relationship between India and the Soviet Union. We have been friends for a long time. They have been friends when we have needed them. And there are many issues on which we think alike without having to align with the other," Mr. Gandhi said.

He added: "Of course, this does not mean that we don't want to be friends with the United States. We want to improve our relations in every sphere with the U.S. but we want to keep our option of individuality open."

India wants improved ties with Pakistan and "would like to reduce the tension... as quickly as might be possible," he said, adding that India wants "a reduction in the level and sophistication of arms" being supplied by the United States to Pakistan.

Mr. Gandhi said India wants to "finish off this confrontation that has been taking place over the years" with Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India since the 1947 partition of the subcontinent.

When asked about his economic policies, the prime minister said he would welcome more foreign companies to help expand India's economy.

Explaining why India has restricted foreign companies from coming in, Mr. Gandhi said: "We have felt uneasy because India was taken over by the East India Company—maybe it is a hangover from that."

The prime minister said he would develop his country's public sector while "opening up more to the private sector so that they can expand and the economy can grow freely."

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

**Q.1**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠KQ762 ♣AKJ95 ♦6 ♣Q3

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—After partner's support, your hand reveals to 18 points, so even if he has a minimum raise your combined values are on the fringe of game. Since your hand has great trick-taking possibilities, we would go straight to four spades without revealing anything about our distribution.

**Q.2**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠983 ♣KQJ9 ♠54 ♠1096

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

4 NT Pass 5 ♣ Pass

6 ♣ ?

What action do you take?

A.—You know there is no way the opponents are going to make this so, naturally you pass! Why? Because you have the opponents where you want them and if you double, you might chase them to six no trump—a slam that might be unbeatable.

**Q.3**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠109852 ♣93 ♦A87 ♠A95

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

4 ♣ Pass 5 ♣ Pass

5 ♣ Pass 6 ♣ Pass

Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—If you elected to double, you show scant respect for both money and the auction. You won't get rich doubling slams holding two aces, especially when, as here, one of the opponents has cue-bid

a suit in which you hold an ace, thereby promising a void. Pass. You might beat this contract anyway, because you have a chance to collect two club tricks.

**Q.4**—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠83 ♣73 ♠92 ♠KQJ8763

Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

A.—Your chances of making 11 tricks at a club contract range from slim to zero. However, your hand rates to produce six or seven tricks at a no trump contract—partner must have either the ace of clubs or some length in the suit. We would gamble out three no trump.

**Q.5**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AK9 ♣AKJ87 ♦8 ♠10632

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass

3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

4 NT Pass 5 ♣ Pass

6 ♣ ?

What action do you take?

A.—Partner might not have made in the way of high cards, but what he does have is three or four trumps and a singleton club at most. Since that is all you need to give your side a good shot at four hearts, bid it.

**Q.6**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠Q7 ♣K10763 ♠983 ♠752

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 NT Double Pass ?

A.—Whether or not you can make two hearts is not the issue here. Partner has stated that he expects to defeat one no trump (all doubles of no trump are for penalties), and you have no reason to overrule him. Indeed, your smattering of values might be exactly what he needs to make the penalty substantial. Pass.

## 700 more U.K. miners return to work Monday

**LONDON (R)**—More than 700 British coalminers abandoned their marathon strike Monday in response to the latest back-to-work drive by the state coal board, initial board figures from the coalfields showed.

The board says more than 70,000 of the 188,000 members of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) have now defied their leadership and turned their backs on the 43-week-old walkout.

Managers had been hoping for a decisive breakthrough after the strikers' bleak Christmas and following a publicity campaign pointing out the tax advantages of giving up the strike this month.

But the initial figures suggested the high return rates of November, when special pay bonuses were on offer, had not been matched. On one Monday in November 2,200 "new faces" showed up at the mines.

The union leadership defiantly vowed to continue the strike against pit closures. NUM Vice-President Mick McGahey told a rally in Scotland: "There is no turning back now—after more than 10 months, we have come too far to turn back."

The board says no miner will be fired against his will or without generous redundancy terms and that Mr. Scargill's demand is ludicrous in a once-prosperous industry now riddled with debt.

The board's chief spokesman, Michael Easton, reinforced the go-back appeal saying: "If the strike went right through 1985 we would lose a quarter of the industry and more than 50,000 jobs."

And a spokesman for the National Working Miners' Committee in north east England told reporters: "We believe that 50 per cent of the 189,000 miners will be back at work within two or three weeks."

## Mother Teresa urges support for resettling famine victims

**ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)**—Mother Teresa of Calcutta ended a 10-day tour of famine-stricken Ethiopia on Sunday by urging foreign governments and relief agencies to support a controversial scheme to resettle 1.5 million people from areas ravaged by prolonged drought.

"It's a very good beginning," the 75-year-old head and founder of the Roman Catholic Missionaries of Charity order said after visiting a site for famine victims near the south western Ethiopian town of Asosa.

The massive relocation programme so far has received direct help only from the Soviet Union. Many Western countries, while providing relief supplies, have questioned whether the Marxist leadership is using the scheme to depopulate politically sensitive areas and whether it's totally voluntary.

The government has denied that the undertaking is aimed at anything other than saving lives.

"What I saw from the people, they seemed really completely content," said Mother Teresa, who won the Nobel Peace prize in 1979.

She got a firsthand look at resettlement operations at Asosa, travelling abroad a vintage DC-3 of the government's relief and rehabilitation commission.

Her 28 nuns here are daily feeding 11,000 of the estimated 7.7 million Ethiopians affected by drought-related food shortages in some of the worst affected areas of this Horn of Africa country.

Mother Teresa left Addis Ababa for her home in Calcutta, India, where she began work among the city's dying destitute more than 35 years ago.

In Asosa, she was driven along dirt roads past fields of crops like sorghum, wheat and maize (corn).

She then watched 51,000 newly arrived settlers from the northern regions of Wollo and Tigray building mud-and-wattle huts on a fertile hillside overlooking a river.

"They have already put the foundations," Mother Teresa told reporters afterward at Addis Ababa Airport, flanked by relief commissioner Maj. Dawit Wolde Giorgis. "Now they have to be

completed.... I think they (foreign donors) could see to the water, they could see to the schools, they could see to the medical part."

Asked about the allocation of only 0.2 hectares of land for each household's use at Asosa instead of the two hectares promised, Mother Teresa replied: "They have not yet settled down properly."

Maj. Dawit, whose commission coordinates the distribution of millions of dollars of mainly Western food aid and which is supervising the creation of the settlement sites, commented on the missionary's suggestion that governments and donor agencies "adopt" the projects.

"This could be a subject for discussion," he said. "It is a good idea which could be discussed."

A European diplomat, who requested anonymity, said afterwards that he thought Mother Teresa's idea "could be considered" by some Western governments, which have refused so far to pump aid into the settlement areas.

The settlers are being moved by truck, bus and Soviet helicopter and transport plane in a \$17.5-million programme supported by only one foreign government, the Soviet Union.

Some Western diplomats here say their governments have refused to back the programme because they contend it is being too hastily organised, sites are badly prepared and the money could be better used rehabilitating the peasants' villages.

They also suspect that an underlying motive behind the settlement schemes is to rob rebel groups in Wollo and Tigray, worst affected by three years of drought, of their civilian population base.

Mother Teresa earlier told two reporters that her main complaint about what she saw at Asosa was that plots allocated to families did not vary in area despite the different size of households. "I think it would be better if a big family had more land," she asserted.

Mother Teresa asked the government for permission to take over the late Emperor Haile Selassie's ornate Addis Ababa Palace as a hospice for the dying. Instead, Dawit granted her 1,500 square metres of land.

During her visit, Mother Teresa saw a dozen camps where hundreds of famine victims have died.

## Princess Margaret has lung operation

**LONDON (R)**—Princess Margaret, younger sister of Queen Elizabeth, has undergone an operation for the removal of a small part of her lung, her doctors said Monday. The 54-year-old Princess is in satisfactory condition after the operation Sunday and is expected to leave hospital within a week, they added. Tests on the tissue removed from her lung showed it to be "innocent," according to a statement issued from her home, Kensington Palace. The statement was signed by Royal physician John Barten and by Matthias Paneth, senior surgeon at the London Heart and Lung Disease Hospital where the operation took place. A spokesman for Buckingham Palace said: "Members of the Royal Family will be very relieved at the news."

Princess Margaret, a heavy smoker, was admitted to Brompton Hospital on Saturday by prior arrangement for what officials described as "routine investigations". Her two children, Viscount Linley, 23, and Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, 20, were in Italy at the time but are returning to London Monday night. Her former husband Lord Snowdon told reporters: "I am very relieved that everything went all right and that it was not something serious."

## Teachers warned about discipline

**NEW DELHI (R)**—India's new education minister has ordered strict classroom discipline—not for students but for teachers. In a memorandum to teachers and other ministry employees Monday, K.C. Pant listed eight faults including loitering in corridors, lack of punctuality, gossiping and having visitors in offices. Spot checks will be carried out to ensure that discipline and punctuality are maintained, he said. The memorandum did not say what action would be taken against offending teachers. But it will not be the case—corporal punishment is banned in Indian schools.

## Mountain biker returns home

**LONDON (AP)**—Adventurer Richard Crane arrived home Sunday after riding a bicycle to the top of Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, and back with his cousin, Nick Crane, Richard Crane, a geologist, celebrated his 31st birthday during the five-day ride up the 5,897-metre peak and said at London's Heathrow Airport that he will now be giving bicycles a break in favour of train travel. He said they endured torrential rain, blizzards and altitude sickness on the mountain. The effort was to raise some £7,000 (\$8,000) for a charity named intermediate technology, which wants to buy a water-raising windmill for an arid village in East Africa. Crane and his brother Richard made headlines in 1983 when they completed a 101-day marathon run across 3,200 kilometres in the Himalayas.

## Zaccaro to be charged

**NEW YORK (R)**—The husband of Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman in run for U.S. vice president, is to face charges in connection with his real estate business, the New York Times reported Monday. The financial affairs of John Zaccaro, Ms. Ferraro's husband, became an issue during her unsuccessful Democratic Party campaign for the vice-presidency last year. According to the Times, the charges against Mr. Zaccaro involve real estate deals on five apartment buildings in the Jueneen district of New York. He is to be charged on several misdemeanor counts over the financing of the deals, the paper said. A misdemeanor is considered a minor charge, compared to the more serious charge of felony.

## Elvis would have been 50 today

**NEW YORK (R)**—Had he lived, Elvis Presley, a country boy who became the king of rock-and-roll, would be 50 Tuesday. Fans and the U.S. entertainment industry will celebrate the day with tributes that range from the lugubrious to the ludicrous. Dozens of U.S. states and cities have declared Tuesday as Elvis Presley Memorial Day. The New York state proclamation cited Presley "not only for his contributions to our musical heritage, but for his charitable and philanthropic endeavours as well."



**MUSICAL RELIEF:** Mother Teresa (right) meets British rock star Bob Geldof in Addis Ababa when Geldof arrived to supervise arrangements for \$6 million worth of funds raised by sales from the record "Do They Know it's Christmas". He wrote the song and organised a specially assembled group called "Band Aid" to raise money for drought victims (see story below) (AP wirephoto)

## Pisani proposes independence in January 1986 for New Caledonia

**NOUMEA (R)**—French special envoy Edgard Pisani Monday unveiled a plan to give the Pacific territory of New Caledonia independence on Jan. 1, 1986 under a treaty giving it special links with Paris.

Mr. Pisani, appointed by the Socialist government to draw up a fresh formula for the territory's future, outlined a 12-month calendar that would lead it to full independence as an "associated state" of France.

In a live radio and television broadcast followed by virtually the entire 145,000 population, Mr. Pisani declared: "change is unavoidable and irreversible."

He said independence could be reconciled with continued guarantees for the European Community. France would continue to be responsible for the defence of the territory and other sectors of activity.

Mr. Pisani said that once the plan—already approved in outline by the government in Paris—was approved by the French parliament, the inhabitants of the territory would be asked to vote on it in July, 1985.

New Caledonia has been hit by a wave of violence and confrontation between the indigenous Kanak (Melanesian) population and settlers from France and other

areas since elections on Nov. 18 gave local power to a white-dominated anti-independence party.

Sixteen people have died in the violence and the militant Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) on Dec. 1, unilaterally declared a "provisional government" of "Kanak" land of the people.

The Kanaks are outnumbered in the territory by white settlers. Polynesians and other groups who mostly oppose immediate independence.

All French citizens who had lived in New Caledonia for at least three years would have the right to vote in the July referendum to choose between the new formula for independence and the present status of the territory. 1,500 kilometres east of Australia, Mr. Pisani said.

He implicitly rejected a demand by the Kanak militants that only the indigenous population should have the right to determine the territory's future.

Speaking in solemn tones with a French flag by his side, Mr. Pisani told his audience: "Your future is in your hands."

He said he expected that some would find "too much independence" in his proposals and others "too much France".

## Brighton bomb planted 26 days before

**LONDON (AP)**—The IRA bomb aimed against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet was planted 26 days before it exploded in the Grand Hotel at Brighton last October, the Daily Mail reported Monday.

The newspaper said that police inquiries showed the bomb was hidden behind panelling in a bathroom above the premier's suite during the weekend of Sept. 15-16. Two police dogs trained to sniff out explosives missed it because they were used only on the floor occupied by Mrs. Thatcher and her advisers, the report said.

The IRA is now able to set bombs to go off as long as 18 months after they are hidden, the Daily Mail said.

It said that sand used to soundproof the ceiling space over Mrs. Thatcher's suite, and extra joints built in to take the heavier weight, helped save her when the explosion brought about the collapse of part of the hotel.

## 20 killed in Europe's worst cold in years

**PARIS (R)**—Snowfalls and one of the most severe cold snaps this century paralysed much of Europe Monday and at least 20 people were reported to have frozen to death or been killed in accidents.

In France, weathermen said temperatures had plunged to their lowest since 1984 as lakes around Paris froze solid and snow settled on palm trees in the Mediterranean resort of Nice for the first time in memory.

Local authorities reported that nine people had died as a direct result of the Arctic conditions, including two vagrants who froze to death.

Overnight snowfalls clogged roads to the centre of Paris and police appealed to motorists to leave their cars at home.

Rome was also hit badly by snow and ice, with the subway system partially closed because of frozen tracks and city buses forced to use snowchains for the first time in 14 years. Schools were closed in a bid to keep private cars off the streets.

Three people were killed in a pile-up on an ice-bound Rome highway and firemen in the Naples area worked through the night to carve a way through to mountain villages cut off by the snow.

Spain was hit by severe snowstorms and heavy frosts over the weekend and seven people were reported killed in road accidents

in the north of the country.

Traffic chaos was also reported in Britain, with commuter trains into London held up by frozen points and several major highways in the south and east of the country blocked by snow.

Conditions were similar across the channel in Belgium, where thousands of drivers abandoned their cars and struggled to get to work on disrupted train services.

Finland registered its coldest temperature this century when the thermometer fell to minus 50.1 Celsius in the northern town of Salla at the weekend.

But in neighbouring Norway, trucks had to transport snow into the centre of Oslo at the weekend to ensure that a major cross-country ski race could go ahead.